



CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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March 17, 2024

Relax. At Cross of Christ, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed as well as projected on the screens.

Bring the kids. Our congregation enjoys the worshipping family. In fact, our worship includes a children's message with little ones in mind. That's why children who act up are never viewed as a bother to the worship service. However, parents who want to calm a restless child may do so by walking them in the lobby. Video & audio of the worship service are available in the lobby to assist families with their worship. A private parents' room is located in the alcove to your left as you exit the chapel.

Don't feel obligated. Our members give offerings to the Lord as an expression of our thanks and praise for his amazing love. Visitors, please know that you are our guests. We're happy you came today to hear about Jesus and his Word. You are not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Make yourself at home. After our services, we join together in the lobby for coffee and conversation. We'd be honored if you would join us!

Restrooms are located to the left and right of the water fountain in the lobby.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, feel free to speak with one of our pastors after the service. More information is also available online at cocidaho.org.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Opening Song

“Jesus, Strong and Kind”

On screens, stanzas 1-4

A Dialogue of Repentance and Forgiveness

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Our God invites us to come into his holy presence openly and honestly. There is no need to hide any part of us, because all of who we are is seen by him. Therefore, let us come before our Lord as we are, acknowledging our sinfulness and trusting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I am too often more obedient to my sinful heart than to you. Though I deserved separation from you, you instead came close to me in Christ. Thank you for not giving up on me.

Because Jesus came, all is well between you and God. His perfect life in your place, his death for your sins, and his resurrection have accomplished all that is necessary for your sins to be removed forever. God has forgiven you! He accepts you. He delights to call you his child. May God give you strength to live as his child.

Amen!

Prayer

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now, this is what the LORD says—

he who created you, Jacob,

he who formed you, Israel:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters,

I will be with you;

and when you pass through the rivers,

they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire,

you will not be burned;

the flames will not set you ablaze.

³For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

I give Egypt for your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your stead.

⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight,

and because I love you,

I will give people in exchange for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not be afraid, for I am with you;

I will bring your children from the east

and gather you from the west.

⁶I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’

and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’

Bring my sons from afar

and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made.”

God's Word

John 12:20-33

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." ²²Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."

²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

Children's Message

Song

"Your Will Be Done"

On screens, stanzas 1-4

Message from God's Word

Hebrews 5:7-9

⁷During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Don't Give Up

Statement of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer follows the prayer spoken by the pastor:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians, united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask only those who have made that public confession of faith by being a member of our congregation or another WELS or ELS congregation come forward to receive Communion. Guests, please ask one of our pastors if you have questions. We are eager to listen and visit with you about the blessings of this Supper and of that unity at a convenient time.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us, and grant us your peace. Amen.

Distribution Song

**"Draw Near and Take
the Body of the Lord"**

On screen, stanzas 1-4

Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen!

Closing Song “My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”

On screens, stanzas 1-3

Silent Prayer

Mighty God, I am in awe of the gracious love that moved you to rescue me. You gave up so much so that I could gain everything. Lord, keep me close to your side and empower me to live my life for you. Amen.

**Our Mission:
Impacting Lives for Eternity**

Offerings

If you would like to give an offering to support gospel ministry at and through Cross of Christ, offering plates are available in the lobby. You can also give your gift online at cocidaho.org/give.



Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Mar 17-24	Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)	Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)
Sunday	8:30am – Worship (Holy Communion) 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym) 11:00am – Worship (Holy Communion)	9:30am – Worship (Holy Communion) 10:45am – Adult Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School
Monday	10:00am – Women’s Bible Study	6:30pm – Community Awareness Night: Nampa Family Justice Center
Tuesday	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study <i>no Cross Connections tonight</i>	
Wednesday	5:00pm – Lent Soup Supper 6:30pm – Lent Worship 7:15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal	
Thursday		5:00 & 6:30pm – Cross Connections 6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study 6:30pm – Men’s Bible Study
Saturday	9:00am – Spring Clean-Up	
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Easter for Kids at Sunday School! (Gym) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult Bible Study Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School

THIS WEEK

Find Your Five

We each have a role in God's mission for us to impact lives for eternity. Let's do it – but where to start? This month, leading up to Easter, let's commit to **finding five people in our lives** who don't know Jesus or don't have a way of connecting regularly to him: a neighbor, coworker, relative, friend. **Ask** God give you an opportunity to share Jesus with them, and then be sure to **take** that opportunity!

Local Easter Outreach: Grab & Go!

We want our whole community to know that the good news of Easter is for them! You'll find in the lobby packets of Easter invitation flyers and maps with highlighted local neighborhood routes. Here's how to participate:

- GRAB a packet with a map.
- GO along the highlighted route on the map – neighborhoods around our Boise campus – at your convenience over the next two weeks.
- DROP an invitation at each door.
 - Tuck it in the door handle, in between the door & frame, into the latch on the gate, etc.
 - Please respect “no soliciting signs” and skip those houses.
- PRAY for the people receiving the invitations!

Food Drive for Boise Rescue Mission

During the month of March, our Sunday school students on the Boise campus will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Boise Rescue Mission – and you can participate, too! Just drop donations in the blue barrels in the lobby. Boise Rescue Mission serves those dealing with homelessness and addiction in Ada and Canyon counties. Learn about their mission at boiserm.org.

Preschool Enrollment Open

General registration for next fall at Cross of Christ Preschool is open! Pick up a paper application from the lobby bulletin board or visit cocidaho.org/preschool to apply online. **Register before April 1 and receive a \$100 discount!** Don't have preschool-age kids in your home? Share the website with someone who does! Contact Mandy (admin@cocidaho.org) with questions.

Midweek Worship for Lent: Final Week
Wednesday, March 20, worship at 6:30 pm

Soup Supper 5:00-6:15pm, take a look at the lobby bulletin board or tinyurl.com/LentSoupSuppers2024 for what may still be needed this week.

Cross of Christ member Bill Adams is offering his skills for free in service to his church family: If you have knives that need sharpening, bring them to the church kitchen this Wednesday and Bill will get them fixed up for you!

Meditations Devotional

The March-May Meditations is available for you on the tables in the lobby. This daily devotional provides food for your faith and encouragement for life. Please take one!

Boise Campus Spring Clean-up

Saturday, March 23, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Come for as long or short a time as you can. Help polish up God's house for Easter! All ages can contribute in some way, with plenty of tasks both large and small to accomplish, indoors and out. Supplies & instructions provided; please bring your own work gloves if you'd like to work outside.

Easter for Kids: Sunday, March 24

We want every child to know that Easter is exciting and a big deal! Easter for Kids will take place on Palm Sunday, March 24, during the education hour (9:45-10:45) on the Boise campus. At Easter for Kids, we'll explore the truths of Easter through color! Kids will journey through stations based on different colors that drive home one uplifting truth: Jesus is alive today!

Easter Candy

Easter Sunday will include a kids' egg hunt! Would you consider donating candy? Place wrapped candy in the kitchen at Boise by **Sunday, March 24** (in the labeled box on the back counter, across from the refrigerators). Gluten-, dairy-, and/or nut-free options always welcome for kiddos with allergies or sensitivities (please label). You can contact Amanda Watkins (amanda.watkins99@gmail.com) with questions.

Call Accepted

Julie Hein has accepted our Call to serve as Director for Cross of Christ Preschool. We thank God for her and the gifts she brings to this ministry! Please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers as she transitions into her new role in the coming months.

UPCOMING

Hospitality Opportunities for Easter Breakfast

Easter Sunday gives us amazing opportunities to offer hospitality to guests and visitors! Many such opportunities are during our Easter breakfast between services. Check out the list of options on the lobby bulletin board, or at tinyurl.com/COCeasterbreakfast24, and consider volunteering to help with one of those needs. Whether you prefer attending the 8:30 am or the 11:00 am service, there is sure to be an opportunity that is just right for you. Contact Ray Dodd to get more details or ask questions about any of these roles (call or text 208-949-8787 / raymondjaydodd@gmail.com).



Holy Week Worship: Who will you invite?

	<i>Boise</i>	<i>Nampa</i>
Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday)	Mar 24, 8:30 & 11:00 am	Mar 24, 9:30 am
	Easter for Kids, 9:45-10:45 (ages 2 - 6th grade)	
Maundy Thursday <i>with Holy Communion</i>	Mar 28, 6:30 pm	Mar 28, 6:30 pm
Good Friday	Mar 29, 6:30 pm	Mar 29, 6:30 pm
Easter Sunday	Mar 31, 8:30 & 11:00 am	Mar 31, 9:30 & 11:30 am
	Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:45 Kids' egg hunt 10:20 am	Easter Brunch & kids' egg hunt between services

Young Adult Group: Wednesday, April 3, Nampa campus

Next gathering is Wednesday April 3, 7:00pm at the Nampa campus. For folks roughly 18 (post-high school) through early 30s, to hang out, make connections, and discuss real-life topics. Friends very welcome!

Spring Growth Groups: Sign-ups Beginning

The spring session of Growth Groups starts the week of April 7, and runs for six weeks (through the week of May 12).

These small group Bible studies meet at church and in members' homes to apply God's Word to our lives and get to know each other better. Carry the joy of Easter all the way through spring with this opportunity to get even more out of the Easter season messages from our pastors!

Check out the available groups on the lobby bulletin board or at tinyurl.com/SpringGG2024. More groups will be added in the coming weeks! If you are interested in or have questions about hosting a group, contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocboise.org).

Service Opportunity: Lawn Mowing

To help mow & trim the Boise campus green spaces through this year's growing season, sign up on the lobby bulletin board or contact Roy Lange (idaho.64Lange19@gmail.com) directly. He's also happy to answer any questions you might have!

- Two individuals or families serve each weekend.
- The work is generally done on Friday or Saturday.
- Equipment and training provided.
- Depending on the size of the team, you'll likely serve 2-3 times between April and October.

Vacation Bible School – Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School will be July 8-11, 9am-12pm, on the Boise Campus. This is a fun, free, faith-building event for kids age 3 through entering 6th grade. Adults & teens 7th grade & older can volunteer. Registration coming soon; think about what friends you could invite – especially friends who don't know Jesus!

Camp Christos – Save the Date!

Camp Christos is a sleepaway Bible camp in the great outdoors for youth ages 9-16. This year camp will be held August 4-9 at Dworshak State Park (about an hour east of Lewiston, ID).

The change in location was necessitated by cost and available dates. We don't expect this location to be permanent but are thankful we have a place that will work for this year! Registration coming soon.

Individuals age 17+ are highly encouraged to volunteer as staff. For more information about volunteering or any part of camp, contact Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org).

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Last Weekend's Worship	79/98	99	276
Livestream Views	5		
Lent Wednesday Worship / Livestream	110/4		
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	55/7	45/n/a	100/7
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	21/6	9/5	30/11
Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study	5/8	8/11	13/19
Cross Connections	5	4	9

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 23-24</i>	\$808,840
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$564,662
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$537,057
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$17,467

Serving	Mar 17		Mar 24	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Altar Care	Guthmiller	K. Struthers	n/a	K. Struthers
AV Tech	J. Parsons, J. Malnes	C. Klink, C. Kennedy, D. Wilson	J. Parsons, S. Tews	E. Christianson, M. Hartman
Bulletins	n/a	Bafus, Guthmiller	n/a	Prigge, Tweedy
Cleaning	T. Strickler	Lange	TBD	n/a
Coffee	Guthmiller	C. Berrier, K. Struthers	TBD	C. Berrier, K. Struthers
Flowers	n/a	Robbins	n/a	Palm Sunday
Music	L. Becker, K. Wetzel	K. Koepsell, Lund family	R. Dodd	K. Koepsell, Sunday school students
Open & Close	n/a	J. Breckon, KC Broyles	n/a	M. Johnson, E. Christianson
Tellers	Rule, Walden, Butterfield		Harris, Hudson, Christianson	
Ushers	Sobolewski	C. Berrier, B. Turley	n/a	B. Adams