

# PARABLES

LIFE - CHANGING STORIES  
FROM JESUS

**CROSS OF CHRIST**

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# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

(208) 375-3992 + [cocidaho.org](http://cocidaho.org)

Pastor Greg Hein (480) 433-3084, [greg.hein@cocidaho.org](mailto:greg.hein@cocidaho.org)

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## September 22, 2024

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**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](http://cocidaho.org).

# Opening Song

# “God Himself Is Present”



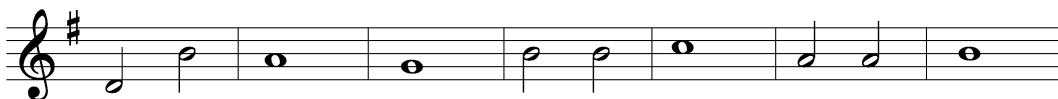
1 God him - self is pres - ent: let us now a - dore him  
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



and with awe ap - pear be - fore him. God is in his  
trust - ing on - ly in your mer - it. Like the ho - ly



tem - ple, all with - in keep si - lence, hum - bly kneel in  
an - gels, wor - ship - ing be - fore you, may I cease - less -



deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone on his throne  
ly a - dore you. All my days shall my praise



is our God and Sav - ior; praise his name for - ev - er!  
rise to you in heav - en for the grace you've giv - en!

*Text: tr. John Miller, 1756–1790, alt.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835; Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.  
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680. Text and tune: Public domain*

# A Dialogue of Repentance and Forgiveness with “For What We Have Done”

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

**Congregation: And also with you.**

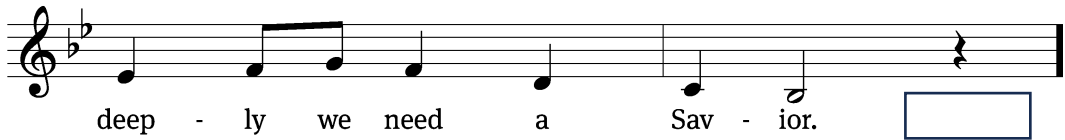
Our God invites us to come into his presence openly and honestly. There is no need to hide any part of us, because all of who we are is seen by him. Therefore, let us come before our Lord as we are, acknowledging our sinfulness and trusting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.



1 For what we have done and left un - done we fall on your  
count - less mer - cies. For sins that are known and  
those un - known we call on your name so ho - ly.  
For en - vy and pride, for clos - ing our eyes; for  
scorn - ing our ver - y neigh - bor. In

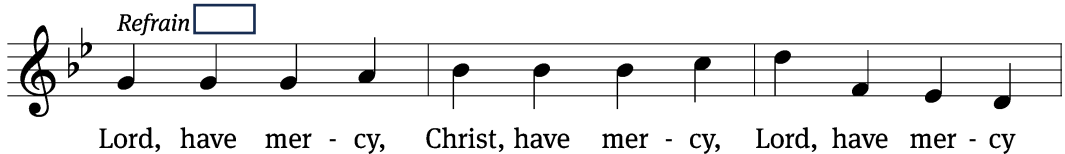


thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how



deep - ly we need a Sav - ior.

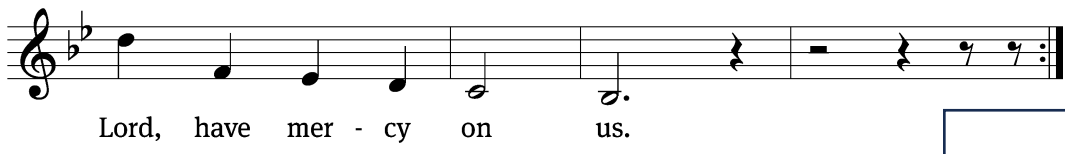
*Refrain*



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,



Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Jesus has done it all for you to be forgiven. All your sins were placed on him so that, by believing in him, God now sees you as perfect, just like Jesus. His death and resurrection have set you free! You are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now, live as a free and holy child of God!



(2 For) what you have done, your life of love you per - fect - ly



lived, we praise you. Though tempt - ed and tried, you



fixed your eyes; you finished the work God gave you.



And there on the tree, a King among thieves, you



bled for a world's betrayal. You



loved to the end, our merciful friend; how



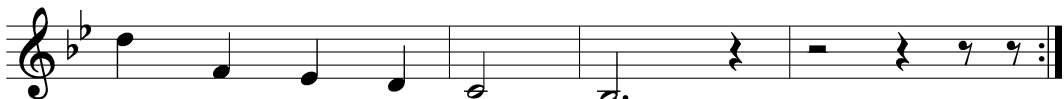
pure and forever faithful.



Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy



on us. Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,



Lord, have mercy on us.

## God's Word

## Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: <sup>17</sup>"This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

<sup>18</sup>His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

<sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. <sup>21</sup>So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

## God's Word

## Ephesians 4:29-5:2

<sup>29</sup>Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup>Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

<sup>1</sup>Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup>and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

## Children's Message

# Song

# “Oh, How Good It Is”



1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -  
2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -  
3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -



geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the  
joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the  
fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we



bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the  
weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we  
live as one we all share in the love of the



fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.  
of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.  
Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.



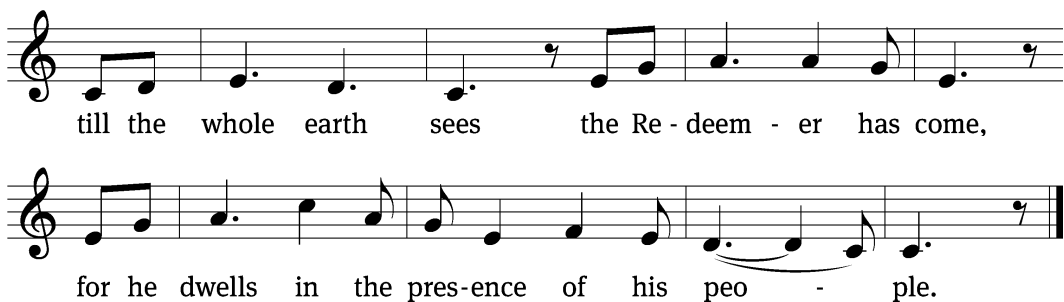
## *Refrain*

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,



and with one heart we'll live out his word,





*Text & tune: Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend © 2012 Getty Music Publishing (BMI), Parakeet Boots Music (ASCAP), Townend Songs, admin. Music Services . Used by permission: OneLicense #721710.*

## Message from God's Word

## Matthew 18:23-35

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup>Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup>“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ <sup>27</sup>The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup>“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

<sup>29</sup>“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

<sup>30</sup>“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

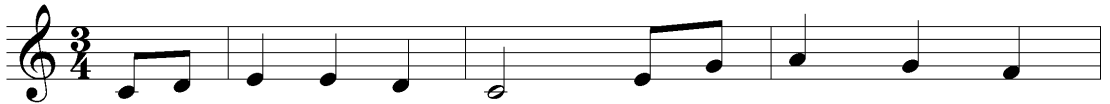
<sup>32</sup>“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup>Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ <sup>34</sup>In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup>“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

### The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

#### Song

#### “Let It Be Said of Us”



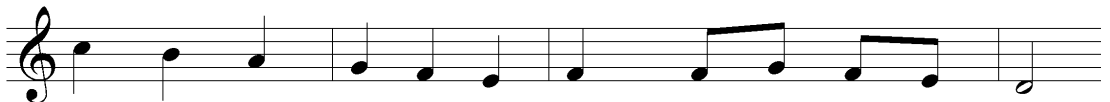
1 Let it be said of us that the Lord was our  
2 Let it be said of us: we were marked by for -



pas - sion, that with glad - ness we bore ev - 'ry cross we were  
give - ness; we were known by our love and de - light - ed in



giv - en; that we fought the good fight, that we fin - ished the course,  
mer - cy; we were ruled by his peace, heed - ing u - ni - ty's call,



know - ing with - in us the pow'r of the ris - en Lord.  
joined as one bod - y that Christ would be seen by all.

## Refrain



Let the cross be our glo-ry and the Lord be our song, by mer-cy made  
ho-ly, by the Spir-it made strong. Let the cross be our glo-ry and the  
Lord be our song, 'til the like-ness of Je-sus be through us made  
known. Let the cross be our glo-ry and the Lord be our song.

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## Statement of Faith

## The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Our Mission: Impacting Lives for Eternity

### Thank-Offerings

*If you would like to give an offering in person to support gospel ministry at and through Cross of Christ, in gratitude to our gracious God, offering plates are available in the lobby. You can also give your gift online at [cocidaho.org/give](http://cocidaho.org/give).*



## 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.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

# Closing Song

# “His Mercy Is More”



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?  
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;  
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,  
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.  
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

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## Silent Prayer

Merciful God, strengthen me in humility to recognize how much I needed your forgiveness. Don't leave me trapped in guilt but help me to live in the true joy of what it means to be completely forgiven. Then, use me to set others free from their guilt so that they can share in my joy, equally covered over by your grace. Amen.

## Acknowledgments

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# Calendar & Announcements

<b>Sept 22-29</b>	<b>Boise (11655 W. McMillan Road)</b>	<b>Nampa (6134 Birch Lane)</b>
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School
Monday	9:30am – Women’s Bible Study 6:30pm – Pastor Call Meeting	
Wednesday	6;15pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal	
Thursday	6:30pm- Cross Connections	6:30pm - Men’s & Women’s Bible Study
Friday		12:00pm- Pizza with Breaking Chains
Saturday		
Sunday	8:30am – Worship 9:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids’ Sunday School (Gym & Classrooms) 11:00am – Worship	9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Adult/Teen Bible Study (Chapel) Confirmation Class Kids’ Sunday School

# THIS WEEK

## **Pastor Call Meeting Tomorrow**

The next meeting to review candidates and issue another Call for a Boise Campus Pastor is **tomorrow, Monday, September 23, 6:30 pm on the Boise campus**. All members are encouraged to participate in this important process!

## **Ladies Retreat Registration Deadline Today!**

Oct 4-6 in Donnelly, ID, \$125, for two nights' lodging, four meals, activities & materials, for 6th grade and older. Get all the info and register at [cocidaho.org/retreat](http://cocidaho.org/retreat). Direct questions to Mandy Watkins (210-425-3270, [amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com)).

## **Women's Bible Study Begins Tomorrow**

The Boise campus Women's Bible Study Group kicks off the fall session tomorrow, September 23, **at 9:30 am**. Please note the new time! We'll meet Mondays at 9:30 am through Monday, December 16 (no meeting on 11/25). If you can, please register online at [tinyurl.com/WBSFall24](http://tinyurl.com/WBSFall24) or on the bulletin board, or just come!

We'll be discussing the book, "Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up? 12 False Christs" by Matthew Richard (CPH/2017, *provided for all participants*). This book reveals twelve false christs and reminds us who the real Jesus of the Bible is. All women are invited to come be challenged, equipped, and comforted.

## **Adult Choir Open Invitation**

Adult Choir will rehearse Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15pm, **starting this week Sept 25** thru Oct 23, and sing for both services on October 27. This opportunity is open to folks 9th grade and older; all experience & skill levels welcome! Please let director Kristen Koepsell know if you plan to participate, or if you'd simply like a little more information ([kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org](mailto:kristen.koepsell@cocidaho.org)).

## **Daily Devotional**

The September-November Meditations booklet is available for you on the tables in the lobby. This daily devotional provides food for your faith and encouragement for life. Please feel free to take one for yourself and a friend!



## **SERVE: Outreach**

Many thanks to those who have committed to serving in various coordinator and team member roles at both campuses, as we implement our new ministry structure! We are still seeking an individual to serve as **Outreach Coordinator** for the Boise campus.

If you have any interest in simply learning more about what this entails, please get in touch with Pastor Hein ([greg.hein@cocidaho.org](mailto:greg.hein@cocidaho.org)) to get some info, no strings attached.

## **Sunday Morning Spiritual Growth for All Ages**

**9:45-10:45am**

### **Teen/Adult Bible Study** “Marriage and Singlehood” (in the chapel)

All are invited as we explore God’s good design for both married and single people. We’ll see the *purpose* of both callings, *unique blessings and challenges* of both, and how God calls us to *support* married and single people in our church family. Regardless of your “relationship status,” you’ll walk away with practical guidance and life-application!

### **Youth Confirmation Class** (9:45am)

7th grade & older, Room 5 (down the hall to the right)

### **Sunday School** (9:45am)

Age 2 – 6th grade, all meet in the gym! (all the way down the hall)

## **UPCOMING**

### **Monthly Ministry Discussion, Sunday, October 6**

In a couple weeks we’ll use the adult Bible class hour (9:45am-10:45am) for October’s ministry discussion. *We’ll discuss challenges and opportunities during the vacancy, plans for the Fall Festival, and ministry goals for the remainder of the year.* Everyone is invited and encouraged to be part of the conversations shaping our ministry!

## **Teen Bible Study Restarts in October**

Starting October 6, Teen Bible Study will pick up on Sunday mornings, 9:45 am in the Conference Room (2nd door on the left in the hallway). Spread the word and bring a friend or two for some great faith & life discussions.

## **Boise Campus Fall Clean-up: Saturday, October 19, 9am-12pm**

Come for as long or short as you can, to help polish up God's house for the change of seasons! Light snacks and refreshments provided. All ages can help, with plenty of tasks large and small to accomplish, indoors and out. Supplies & instructions provided; please bring your own work gloves if you'd like to work outside.

## **Fall Festival: October 27, 3-5pm**

Here it comes! Fall Festival at the Boise campus is Sunday, October 27, 3-5pm. We'll have a chili cook-off, games, trunk or treat, and a petting zoo!

This is the perfect event to attend with an eye on hospitality and connecting with new folks in our community—be sure to attend (let us know if you'd like a Cross of Christ t-shirt to wear).

How to participate?

- Simply attend! (Costume optional. 😊)
- Invite a friend or neighbor family to come with you!
- Volunteer your time & assistance day-of (set-up, grilling, hospitality team, games, clean-up, etc): [tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer](http://tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer).
- Decorate your vehicle's trunk and hand out candy. (Trunk-or-treat will run 3:30-4:30pm.) Please sign up: [tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer](http://tinyurl.com/COCFFvolunteer).
- Donate candy so our trunk-decorators don't have to buy it all! [tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations](http://tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations)
- Compete in the chili cook-off: [tinyurl.com/FFchilicookoff](http://tinyurl.com/FFchilicookoff)
- Contribute a dessert or side for the meal: [tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations](http://tinyurl.com/FFfooddonations)

Info & sign-ups also available on the lobby bulletin board. Direct questions to Mandy Watkins ([amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com) / 210-425-3270).

<i>General Fund Offerings Planned FY 24-25</i>	\$816,957
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$172,817
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$144,633
Total Offerings Last Weekend (All Funds)	\$16,562

<b>People in God's Word this past week</b>	<b>Boise</b>	<b>Nampa</b>	<b>Total</b>
Last Weekend's Worship	84/87	96	267
Livestream Views	9		
Sunday Morning Adult/Teen Bible Study	54	45	99
Kids' Sunday School/Confirmation	24/4	15/4	39/8
Men's Bible Study/Women's Bible Study	n/a	7/12	7/12
Growth Groups	41		
Cross Connections	7	5	12

Serving	September 22		September 29	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Altar Care	n/a	K. Struthers	n/a	K. Struthers
AV Tech	Malnes	C. Klink, D. Wilson	J. Parsons, S. Tews	G. Light, R. Jorgensen, D. Wilsom
Bulletins	n/a	R. Ritger, B. Ford, D. Ashley	n/a	L. Bafus, K. Guthmiller
Cleaning	Strickler	n/a	TBD	Dosher
Coffee	TBD	K. Struthers, Welch	TBD	K. Struthers, Welch
Flowers	n/a	AVAILABLE	n/a	AVAILABLE
Mowing	n/a	J. Harris M. Wilson	n/a	Geary, Hartman
Music	R. Dodd, M. Dorn, C. Trull	K. Koepsell, Lund family	J. Hein, A. Parsons	L. Becker, A. Scott, Sunday School Kids & Mrs. Lund
Close	n/a	Butterfield	n/a	M. Brown
Tellers	Harris, Butterfield, Rule		Turley, Christianson, Harris	
Ushers	n/a	B. Walters, R. Seely	n/a	R. Seely