



HOPE<sup>IN</sup>CHRIST  
CHURCH

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A Christian Reformed Church

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Glorifying God by Knowing,  
Living and Proclaiming  
our Hope in Christ

**TODAY'S MESSAGE**

Christian Freedom

*Colossians 2:16-23*

**APRIL 2, 2023**

**PALM SUNDAY**

Senior Pastor Scott Roberts  
Associate Pastor Ethan Rogers

## ***Welcome!***

Welcome to Hope in Christ Church. We are so glad you have joined us today!  
May God bless you as you worship with us.



## ***Order of Worship***

Opening Songs

Call to Worship

Songs of Praise

Prayer

**Scripture** Colossians 2: 16-23  
Reader: Jan Scholten

**Sermon** Christian Freedom

Songs of Response



## ***Today's Offering***

The suggested donation for the offering this morning is the General Fund.

## ***God is Moving Mountains***

Islam permits guardianship (foster care) for orphaned and abandoned children. However, it bans adoption so as to ensure non-biological children do **not** receive inheritance. On 6 February, **Turkey** was struck by a series of devastating earthquakes which are estimated to have killed up to 46,000 people. In response to questions about whether children orphaned by the quake could be adopted, Turkey's Directorate of Religious Affairs (Diyanet) issued a *fatwa* (religious ruling) explaining that, while Islam bans adoption, 'there is no obstacle for marrying' earthquake-affected children. [According to the Diyanet, the minimum age for marriage for girls is eight years old.] ***Please pray:*** May God sustain and amplify Turkish outrage (which is considerable) and use this fatwa to further expose the moral deficiency of Islam. May no orphaned or lost Christian child be exploited in this way. *Lord have mercy!*

For more information, contact Rebekah Roberts at  
[Rebekah@ChristianResponse.org](mailto:Rebekah@ChristianResponse.org)

## ***Prayers***

Each week we pray for members of our church family. Suggested prayers are for their spiritual growth, opportunities to see Christ in their everyday lives, and anything else that God puts on your mind for them.

This week please pray for:

Steven     Alice     Yvonne

Bud & Lorraine     Marlene

## ***Announcements***

**Thank you:** We are so grateful for our church family. Thank you for the prayers during our dad's illness, and passing. We appreciated the cards sent as well, and the cookies some of you provided for the reception. It was also comforting seeing some of you at the service. We're surrounded by people that love us. People that God has put in our lives. While we continue grieving, we know God is walking this walk with us.

In Christ, Karen and Diane

**Spring Break Craft Time:** April 4, 5, 6 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Come to the HCC foyer any time during those hours for a fun, creative time with friends. There will be cake decorating, crochet instruction, painting with acrylic and watercolors, and more.

**Respite for Dementia Caregivers:** Dementia Support Northwest (DSNW), a Whatcom-based nonprofit, is offering caregiver respite programs for those taking care of a loved one with dementia. The programs run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays at Sonlight Community CRC and Wednesdays and Thursdays at Christ the King-Bellingham. They offer non-medical, social respite to give caregivers vital opportunities for rest, recovery, and time to tend to other daily needs while their loved ones enjoy programming, lunch, and refreshments with familiar and friendly faces as well as DSNW's professional caregivers. If you or someone you know is caring for a loved one with dementia, call (360) 671-3316 or e-mail [alz@alzsociety.org](mailto:alz@alzsociety.org). For more information, visit [www.dementiasupportnw.org](http://www.dementiasupportnw.org).

## ***Servants for Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>***

**Greeters:** Barb & Joe Z    **E-Street Taxi:** Doug S

**Prayer Room:** Chuck    **Communion Prep:** Clair & Hildred

## ***Sermon Outline - April 2, 2023***

### **Christian Freedom**

*Colossians 2:16-23*

- I. What is **freedom**?
  
- II. The temptation to judge and condemn others (Col 2:16)
  - A. Therefore (Col 2:13-15)
  
  - B. Let no one pass judgment on you
    - 1. Not talking about deciding after the facts are considered.
  
    - 2. Think peer pressure and 2nd class citizens
  
    - 3. External religious practices
      - a. Food (Mt 15:17-18, Acts 10:9-16)
  
      - b. Special times and seasons (Ex 23:14-16)
  
      - c. New moons (1Sam 20:5, 1Chr 23:31, 2Chr 2:4, Ezra 3:5, Neh. 10:33, Isa 1:14)
  
      - d. Sabbaths (Ex 20:8-11)

C. Why are these things irrelevant? (Col 2:17)

1. Shadows and signposts point to the real things

2. Jesus is the real thing (Jn 1:29, Lk 22:7-23, Heb 3:7-4:10, Jn 1:5, Rev 21:23-24, Jn 6:35, 10:7, 9, 14:6)

III. The danger of disqualification (Col 2:18)

A. There are things one can legitimately judge and condemn (1Cor 5, Eph 4:28, 1Tim 5:3-16)

B. Slippery slopes (Col 2:19, 1:18)

C. This entire argument Paul repeats a second time in v.20-23

D. All these things look wise but aren't (Col 2:23)

IV. Application: What rules have you made for yourselves or others that impinge upon freedom in Christ?

**Council President:** Lou Kooistra (360-820-2548)

**Deacon Chair:** Dan Obbink (360-738-4718)

### ***Council Members and Districts***

#### **District - Last name A to C**

Elder: Lou Kooistra (360-820-2548)

Deacon: Barb Zylstra (360-312-9695)

#### **District - Last name D to G**

Elder: Jerry Hop (360-734-9510)

Deacon: Doug Konn (360-224-1254)

#### **District - Last name J to M**

Elder: Brian Koning (360-927-6407)

Deacon: Dan Obbink (360-738-4718)

#### **District - Last name N to R**

Elder: Mark Ruiter (360-398-0101)

Deacon: Mike Button (360-739-5435)

#### **District - Last name S to Z**

Elder: Don Recker (360-393-4179)

Deacon: Rachel Carlson (509-899-3963)

#### **District - Council Members**

Pastor Scott Roberts (360-733-6177)

### ***Team Leaders***

**Education Director:** Pastor Ethan Rogers (360) 733-6177  
ethan@hopeinchristchurch.org

**Custodian:** Don Recker (509-949-7441)

**Worship:** Jerry Hop (360-734-9510)

**GEMS:** Darlys Recker (360-393-4179)

**Friendship:** Tanya Obbink (360-393-5171)

**Safe Church Coordinator:** Don Recker (360-393-4179)

**Health Minister:** Alice Brakke (360-671-2155)

## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Mon.: Closed  
Tues., Wed., Fri.: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Thursday: noon - 3 p.m.



## **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

All bulletin items are due on Thursdays at noon.



## **HOPE IN CHRIST CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

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