



HOPE ^{IN} CHRIST
CHURCH

A Christian Reformed Church

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

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Death and the Hope of Life

Genesis 47:13-21

DECEMBER 3, 2023

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

Congregational Prayer

Scripture Reading, Cain Orr Genesis 47:13-21

Sermon Death and the Hope of Life

Communion

Songs of Response

The Lord's Supper, which we celebrate today, is a way for the Christian to remember the sacrifice of Christ. If you have not yet believed in Christ as Savior, we invite you to watch and learn. We are glad you are here! If you have questions about Jesus, please see Pastor Scott after the worship service.

The bread we use is allergen free and contains no wheat, dairy, nuts or soy. However, it may contain egg.



God is Moving Mountains

Nigeria: Treasure is Free; Many Remain Missing

In July 2021 Treasure Ayuba (12) was the youngest among 121 children abducted from Bethel Baptist High School, southern Kaduna. Local churches joined forces to make ransom payments, and by January 2022, Treasure alone remained in captivity. Believing they had secured a convert, Treasure's captors put him to work. Meanwhile, 'the church was earnestly praying to God for him' (Acts 12:5). On 2 November 2023 Church leaders in Kaduna confirmed that Treasure Ayuba (now aged 14) had escaped and returned to his family. ***Thank-you Lord!*** Meanwhile, around 100 of the 276 teenage girls abducted by terrorists from the Christian community of Chibok in April 2014, remain missing. Likewise, five years after her abduction in February 2018, Leah Sharibu (now aged 20) remains 'a slave' of Islamic State jihadists.

Please pray for the children who remain in captivity in Nigeria.

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for Bauchi's trial, which resumed on November 27, to go in his favor and for the blasphemy charges to be dropped.
2. Pray the Lord will thoroughly infiltrate conflict-ravaged, terrorist-infested, and chronically insecure Northern Nigeria to bring peace to all peoples and liberty to all captives.
3. Pray the Lord will orchestrate a breakthrough in Nigeria's complex and multi-theatre war with Islamic jihadists.

For more information, contact Rebekah Roberts
Rebekah@ChristianResponse.org

Servants for Sunday, December 10th

Greeters: Avis, Ruth

E-Street Taxi: Doug S

Prayer Room: Chuck

Cookies: Jolene, Elaine, Ruth

Today's Offering

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

Sermon Outline
Death and the Hope of Life
Genesis 47:13-21

- I. Death is everywhere in our world

- II. The famine in Joseph's day (Gen 47:13-21)
 - A. Background of Joseph's life (Gen 37-41)

 - B. Present situation
 1. Very severe famine (Gen 47:13-14)

 2. Famine costs them their future food security (Gen 47:15-17)

 3. Famine costs them their life and freedom (Gen 47:18-21)

 - C. Where is the compassion, generosity and love?
 1. Sin breeds cultures of death

 2. Cultures of death
 - a. Seek to oppress people in their desperation

 - b. Cause people to sell anything and everything they have in the hope of finding life.

 - c. Lead people into servitude towards those with power.

 3. This is what sin does to people (Rom 5:12, 6:23)

D. How often do we sell ourselves to things/people/ideas that we think can save us, but which only lead us into more suffering?

III. "An entire culture of death can only be defeated by a richer and more compelling culture of love." [1]

A. Hope of life and love @ 1st coming (2Cor 5:21, Jn 1:11, 11:25-26, 1:5)

B. Hope of life and love @ 2nd coming

1. The unbeliever seeks to build it on human effort

2. The believer watches and waits for God to build it!

[1] <https://www.usccb.org/committees/pro-life-activities/false-freedom-and-culture-death>

Announcements

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: Please join us Sunday, Dec. 24 at 6:30 p.m. for a traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. We have invited Legacy Church to join us that evening to celebrate the birth of Jesus. There will not be a service on Dec.25.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: Please join us on Sunday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. for a night of worship, praise, and fun as we welcome in the Advent season!

CRAFTS WITH DARLYS: Darlys will be hosting crafting get-togethers at church on Dec. 9 and 16, starting at 10 a.m. Ask Darlys for more information.

CONCERT OF CAROLS: The community is invited to a Concert of Carols for congregation and organ featuring Michael Plagerman on Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Lynden American Reformed Church, 8868 Northwood Road. Admission is by donation.

DEVOTIONS FOR A BLUE CHRISTMAS: In the midst of hard times, find strength and encouragement through God's Word. A set of 14 encouraging Today devotions reassure you that even during the darkest of Christmas seasons, you're not alone. Receive this free e-mail series and e-book when you subscribe to Today at todaydevotional.com/bluechristmas

THRIFT STORE EXTENDS TIMES: The Summit Thrift Store is extending its times to accept donations to match the hours the store is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please drop off in the alley behind the store, which is located at 404 Front St., Lynden. Be sure to ring the doorbell in the back and allow the attendant to help you before dropping items off. The store is still in need of volunteers; no experience is necessary. For more information or to volunteer, call (360) 312-4105 or visit www.summitthriftstore.org and click the volunteer tab. The store is raising funds to support the Summit Houses run by Envision Mission.

Council Members and Districts

Council President: David Richards (360-961-0459)

Elder Chairperson: Lou Kooistra (360-820-2548)

Deacon Chairperson: Mike Button (360-739-5435)

District - Last name A to C

Elder: Lou Kooistra (360-820-2548)

Deacon: Jolene Skovron (360-550-7220)

District - Last name D to Ka

Elder: Jerry Hop (360-734-9510)

Deacon: Doug Konn (360-224-1254)

District - Last name Kn to N

Elder: David Richards (360-961-0459)

Deacon: Philip Bergman (360-201-3873)

District - Last name O to R

Elder: Mark Ruiten (360-398-0101)

Deacon: Mike Button (360-739-5435)

District - Last name P to Z

Elder: Don Recker (360-393-4179)

Deacon: Rachel Carlson (509-899-3963)

District - Council Members

Pastor Scott Roberts (360-733-6177)

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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