



HOPE <sup>IN</sup> CHRIST  
CHURCH

---

A Christian Reformed Church

---

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

**TODAY'S MESSAGE**

*Are You Blessed Or Cursed?*

Deuteronomy 27 - 28

**FEBRUARY 11, 2024**

Pastor Scott Roberts

## ***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***

*Your Majesty*

Announcements

**Call to Worship** Ephesians 1:3-7

*Blessed Be Your Name*

*When We Walk With The Lord*

*Undivided Heart*

**Litany** Colossians 3:12-17

*Before The Throne Of God Above*

**Congregational Prayer**

**Deuteronomy 27-28** Scripture Reader, Cain Orr

**Sermon** Are You Blessed Or Cursed?

*Not What My Hands Have Done*

**Benediction**

*At The Name Of Jesus*

---

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

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

# ***God is Moving Mountains***

## **The Forgotten Believers in Nigeria**

It is not new in the central and northern regions of Nigeria for Christian villages to be attacked and for many Christians to be killed by Fulani militants or the Islamic terrorist group known as Boko Haram. According to a 2023 report by the International Society for Civil Liberties and Rule of Law, these are estimates of the impact on Christians over the past 14 years:

52,000 Christians have been killed in attacks  
17,500 churches and 2,000 Christian schools have been attacked or destroyed

According to ICR partners on the ground:

25,000 women have been widowed due to persecution  
In the past December 2024, an estimated 300-500 Christians were killed and 10,000-15,000 were displaced, with the number rising.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, let's pray for our fellow believers who are suffering under brutal persecution. We are united to these brothers and sisters through our union in Christ, and it is an amazing blessing and privilege for us to have such a large family all over the globe. My prayer is that we will honor and bring glory to our Lord by how we care for one another.

### **Prayer Points**

- 1) Pray for ICR partners on the ground who are ministering to the needs of these believers.
- 2) Pray for the Lord's comfort and that His peace will reign in the hearts and minds of believers.
- 3) Pray for healing and restoration for those affected by attacks.

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

## ***Servants for Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>***

**Greeters:** Jay & Avis

**E-Street Taxi:** Cain

**Scripture Reader:** Don R

**Prayer Room:** Chuck

**Cookies:** Diane, Helen, Faye

## Sermon Outline

Are You Blessed or Cursed?

*Deuteronomy 27-28*

- I. Are you blessed or cursed?
  
- II. What does it mean to be blessed or cursed?
  - A. Bless
    1. To be blessed was the most important thing in the ancient world (Gen 17:18, 32:26, Job 42:12-13)
    2. First blessings (Gen 1:22, 28)
    3. To be blessed is to be empowered for a life that is full and under God's smiling gaze.
  
  - B. Curse
    1. The first curses (Gen 3:14, 17)
    2. Balak sought Balaam to curse the people of Israel (Num 22-24)
  
  - C. So, are you blessed or are you cursed?

III. The one who keeps the command of God is blessed!

A. Keeping God's commands (Dt. 27:1, Jam 2:10)

1. Receive God's promise and enter the land (Dt 27:1-2)
2. Erect an altar and worship
3. Sacrifice burnt and peace offerings. (27:6-7)
4. Rewrite the commandments of God upon the altar in plaster which presumes it is done with their own hands. (Dt 27:4,8)
5. Then the nation shall utter the blessings and the curses

B. The Blessings and the Curses

1. 12 curses declared in Dt 27:14-26
2. 24 blessings depending on how one counts (Dt 28:3-14)
3. Longer set of curses (Dt. 28:15ff)
4. God was trying to clearly lay out the choice –
  - a. Choose God and live
  - b. Choose disobedience and sin and die.
  - c. So are you blessed or cursed according to God's standard in Dt?

IV. The Gospel (Gal 3:10, 13, Jn 1:29, Mt 5:17, Rom 8:3-4, Lk 22:42, Eph 1:20-21)

## ***Announcements***

**Tena Crosby on March 9 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.** Do you want to be more effective in sharing your faith with others? We believe that the four communication muscles each contribute an essential part when we share the wonder of Jesus with people. We need to recognize the kinds of questions people are asking in order to share the message of hope in a way that connects with those who are hearing. Come and join us on Saturday, March 9 to learn how each muscle contributes to an effective gospel witness. Lunch will be provided. Childcare is available for children under 12; older children may attend with their parents. Online registration may be found by scanning this QR code.



**The Hope in Christ Summit House** has been going strong with 5 guys for over 5 years now. Mark Tarbell is the Resident Assistant (R.A.) and friend of Dave Richards. Jamey Smith is moving out and is a friend of Jay Kaemingk. Randy Shirley is looking at his next step, possible as an R.A. and is a friend of Lou Kooistra. We had a marvelous celebration of Jamey and Randy completing their program recently. Tony Anderson is newer to the house and a friend of Jerry Hop. Ryan Wright goes to the Bridge church and has spiritual friends already in place, but he also lives at the house. We have a new applicant coming in soon, we hope. These guys are growing slowly but surely and we are thankful to you as a church for your prayers, friendships, Christmas gifts and generosity. Contact us if you'd like to be more involved.  
Mitchell Senti, 360-392-0289

**Sign up Today!** February 18 is Potluck Sunday. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer. Menu: Soups, Salads, Rolls & Desserts.

**Dordt Choir Coming To Lynden:** The Dordt University choir under the direction of Ryan Smit will be performing at Third CRC on March 6 at 7 p.m. as part of its Northwest Tour. Everyone is invited to the free event. If you have any questions, call Mike Smit at (208) 420-0483.

## ***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)

**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**

**712 East Sunset Drive, Bellingham, Washington 98225**

**(360) 733-6177**

Email [info@hopeinchristchurch.org](mailto:info@hopeinchristchurch.org)

Website [hopeinchristchurch.org](http://hopeinchristchurch.org)