



HOPE^{IN}CHRIST
CHURCH

A Christian Reformed Church

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

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Pride and Providence

Judges 12

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

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

What an Awesome God

Welcome

Call to Worship - Philippians 2:3-11

Your Majesty

What a Beautiful Name

Sovereign

Turn Your Eyes

Prayer

Judges 12, **Reader:** Chidubem

Sermon: Pride and Providence

Glorious Day

Benediction

Christus Victor



Today's Offering is for the Outreach Fund.
There is a collection basket next to the sound booth.

God is Moving Mountains

The May 2025 conflict between Israel and Iran made things harder than ever for Iranian believers. An ICR field worker explained, “The Iranian underground church is fearing to be persecuted even more now as suspected Zionist collaborators.”

And these fears proved valid. Over the summer months, the Iranian government arrested more than 50 Christians in 21 cities. They were accused of espionage and collaboration with foreign intelligence. Ministry of Intelligence agents raided multiple house churches and the homes of converts to Christianity, confiscating Bibles and other Christian materials.

One government broadcast shared widely on TV and social media used footage of Iranian Christians gathering in other countries, images of confiscated Bibles, and supposed surveillance of Bible smuggling to portray Christians as anti-government cultists.

Following the conflict, Iran’s top judicial chief ordered prosecutors to fast-track trials and impose harsher penalties for religiously based charges like “waging war against God” and “corruption on earth.” After the airstrike on Evin prison, at least 11 Christian prisoners were transferred to other facilities, including the Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary and Qarchak Prison. Conditions are described as abysmal by one female Christian prisoner, with a lack of adequate food, water, and hygienic facilities. Other Christian prisoners are unaccounted for, leading to fears of forced disappearances.

How to Pray:

1. Pray for believers in prisons to remain in good health and to be encouraged in faith.
2. Pray for converts to Christianity to mature quickly in faith.
3. Pray for Christians enduring persecution to remain faithful, holding fast to God for his strength and peace.

For More Information Visit:

<https://christianresponse.org/news/midnight-raids-in-iran/>

Sermon Outline
Pride and Providence
Judges 12

I. Pride and infighting (Prov 16:18, Mk 3:24-25)

A. The context of Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen 48:5-20)

B. Dysfunctional family dynamics

II. Ephraim's folly

A. The accusations

1. Pride manifested in Ephraim (Judg 12:1, 4, Num 32)

2. Pride in the bible (Job 35:12, Ps 10:4, 31:18, 59:12-13, Isa 9:9-11, 16:6, 25:11, Ezek 16:49, Obad 3)

3. Jephthah response: Picking a fight? (Judg 12:2-4)

B. Lesson: Insidious dangers of pride among God's people (1Cor 6:7)

C. Learning humility so we can see pride defeated in our life

1. Historic understanding: Pride is deadliest of the seven deadly sins (Lk 18:9-14; City of God Book 14, Chapter 13; CS Lewis)
2. Recognize the beauty of humility (Mt 20:28, Phil 2:5-8)
3. Gaze at Christ to gain humility
4. Have a right view of God's holiness and perfection

III. Providence in the three Minor Judges - Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon (Judg 12:8-15)

A. A lesson in providence: Keep looking to God (Rom 9:21, Isa 55:8-9, WCF 5.1, WLC 18)

B. They died... (Judg 12:7, 10, 12, 15)

C. Our gospel hope

Good article: <https://www.cslewisinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/KD-2011-Winter-Pride-and-Humility-Page1-890.pdf>

Announcements

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The annual congregational meeting is today during the Sunday School hour. Please plan to attend. A vote will be taken to approve the revised budget.

GEMS – BUTTERBRAIDS: The GEMS are selling Butter Braids again. The items will be ready in time for Christmas. Contact Darlys if interested in ordering, or sign-up at the table in the foyer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: There will not be youth or adult Sunday School on November 16 (Congregational mtg) and November 30 (Thanksgiving weekend).

PIZZA & DÉCOR PARTY: Come join the fun on November 29 at 6pm as we decorate our building for the Advent season while enjoying pizza and great conversation.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING: A special monetary offering will be taken this Thanksgiving to support the Bellingham Food Bank.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES: The deacons would like to send care packages from our congregation to our out-of-town college students to encourage them and let them know that we love and miss them. We'll have a table set out containing boxes labeled Grace Roberts, Caleb Roberts, Mattea Ruiters, Chantel Obbink, and Amber Obbink. IDEAS: Encouraging notes, snacks or candy, coffee cards, tiny fun trinkets, --- anything that you'd like to include. *The last date for items is Sunday, November 23.*

FRIDAY PRAYER SESSION: Men, all of you who have a heart for our country, America, please remember that the Prayer Center's session of men praying for America is now held at Hope in Christ Friday mornings from 7:00-8:00. We meet in the conference room in the admin building. We hope to see you there.

Hospitality for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Provide: Chidubem	Set up: Ida
Serve: Ida	Clean up: Chidubem, Ida

Servants for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Greeters: Needed	Scripture Reader: Chidubem
Foyer Monitor: Rachel	Prayer Room: Needed

Council Members and Districts

Council President: Dan Obbink (360-393-5171)

Elder Chairperson: David Richards (360-961-0459)

Deacon Chairperson: Jenn Boer (360-820-6164)

District - Last name A to C

Elder: Glen Hendricks (616-581-9055)

Deacon: Barb Zylstra (360-927-3583)

District - Last name D to Ka

Elder: Jay Kaemingk (360-319-4671)

Deacon: Darlys Recker (509-833-8357)

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 Ruiter (360-398-0101)

Deacon: Hildred Abee (385-229-2121)

District - Last name S to Z

Elder: Dan Obbink (360-393-5170)

Deacon: Jenn Boer (360-820-6164)

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 (360-920-8123)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



BULLETIN DEADLINE

All bulletin items are due on Wednesdays at noon.



HOPE IN CHRIST CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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