



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**

*Irresistible Attraction!*

***Romans 9:15-18***

**APRIL 19, 2026**

Pastor Mitchell Senti

## ***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.

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## ***Order of Worship***

*God of Wonders*

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

*Come Thou Fount*

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

*I Am Not My Own*

**Prayer**

**Romans 9:15-18, Reader - Damon**

**Sermon: Irresistible Attraction!**

*He is Lord / Build My Life*

**Benediction**

*Doxology*

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



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

Rami\* leads a church in Bethlehem, and for him prayer is not simply part of church life—it is the foundation of everything they do. Every morning at 6 a.m., members of the church gather online to pray together. A link is shared in their chat group, and whoever is able joins. Usually seven to twelve people connect, read a chapter of Scripture together, and spend about an hour praying.

“This has become our strength,” Rami said. Despite the war in the region and the economic hardship many families are facing, the church continues to grow. Young believers are stepping into leadership and are eager to serve. “We see this as an answer to prayer.”

Prayer also sustains Rami personally. As an outspoken Christian voice in the region, he sometimes receives threatening messages from extremists. When this happens, his response is always the same: prayer and fasting. After one particularly serious series of threats, he fasted and prayed for three days. The messages had simply said, “I will kill you.”

Then another message arrived from the same number:

“Please stop praying. Ghosts have been torturing me for three days. I cannot sleep or eat. If this continues, I will kill myself.”

Rami never responded, but he knew that God had been at work.

### **How to Pray:**

1. God, we praise you for the way you answer prayers causing people to acknowledge your power and to serve you and your church.
2. Father, we pray that you would continue to sustain and strengthen your church which is living in the midst of a war zone.
3. Holy Spirit, please convict the hearts and minds of those who persecute you and your church that they may be saved.

### **For More Information Visit:**

<https://christianresponse.org/news/hope-in-the-middle-east/>

Sermon Outline

*Romans 9:15-18*

**Irresistible Attraction!**

1. The irresistible attraction of love

2. The gift received

3. What is the gift and how do we use it?

## ***Announcements***

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The high school and middle school classes will join the Deep Dive today as we listen to a missionary speaker.

**ELDER/DEACON NOMINATIONS:** The following members are being presented by Council as candidates for Elder: Brian Koning and Lou Kooistra; and for Deacon: Rockelle Ruiter and Chidubem Uchefuna. On May 3, a vote will be taken to accept or reject the slate of names presented by council. On May 10, we will draw lots and the Holy Spirit will select our next Elders and Deacons. We give thanks Mark Ruiter for his service as Elder, and to Barb Zylstra and Philip Bergman for their service as Deacon.

**PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES:** Come and join others for a time of prayer: Sun @ 9:15am in foyer upstairs, Tues @ 12:15-12:45 on Zoom, Fri @ 7am in admin bldg., Fri @ 3pm—5pm in sanctuary. Come when you can, leave when you must. Let's worship and seek our great God together!

**RESONATE'S GLOBAL MISSION'S SPRING CAMPAIGN:** Resonate, the CRC's church-planting assistance program, has been blessed to receive an offer from generous donors to match ALL contributions received between now and April 30th! In the memo of your check, write "Resonate - Where Most Needed. 801210"

**FAITH FORMATION TIP:** The practice of gratitude, rooted in recognizing and responding to God's constant goodness, moves us to respond fully to God's generosity. Each day this week take some time to write down one thing for which you are grateful. At the end of the week share your list with your family or friends in celebration of God's goodness and provision in your life. For more ways to practice gratitude, see [crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject/gratitude](http://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject/gratitude).

### ***Hospitality for Sunday, April 26, 2026***

**Provide:** Needed

**Set-up:** Needed

**Serve:** Needed

**Clean-up:** Chidubem

### ***Servants for Sunday, April 26, 2026***

**Greeters:** Rachel

**Scripture Reader:** Needed

**Foyer Monitor:** Dan

**Prayer Room:** Rachel

## **HOPE IN CHRIST CHURCH**

710 East Sunset Drive, Bellingham, Washington 98225

(360) 733-6177

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

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

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10am - 3pm

### ***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 Ruitter (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 Mitchell Senti (360-392-0289)

**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)