



HOPE ^{IN} CHRIST
CHURCH

A Christian Reformed Church

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

TODAY'S MESSAGE

The Sixth Commandment:
What Does It Mean To Be People Who Preserve Life?

Deuteronomy 19-24

DECEMBER 31, 2023

Senior Pastor Scott Roberts
Associate Pastor Ethan Rogers

Order of Worship

Prelude: Mitchell Senti

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

Call to Worship Deuteronomy 21:1-9

Prayer of Confession/Assurance

I'm Forgiven/You Are My King/Amazing Love

Nothing But the Blood/What Can Wash Away My Sin

No Longer Slaves

Congregational Prayer

Scripture: Deut. 20:1-20 Lou Kooistra

**Sermon: The Sixth Commandment:
What Does It Mean To Be People Who Preserve Life?**

There is Power in the Blood

Benediction

Postlude: Mitchell and Rochelle



Today's Offering

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

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.

God is Moving Mountains

NICARAGUA

On Tuesday 15 August the government of President Daniel Ortega ordered the confiscation of all assets belonging to the prestigious, Jesuit-run, Central American University (UCA) in the capital, Managua, after a judge labelled it a 'center of terrorism organized by criminal groups.' Then, on Wednesday 23 August, the government banned the entire Society of Jesus (Jesuits) – from the country and ordered the confiscation of all its assets, claiming the religious order had failed to comply with tax reporting. At the time of writing, only 11 Jesuits remained in the country. The government has been pursuing the Catholic Church since April-May 2018, after it opened its doors to shelter the victims of deadly state violence. Reuters notes (23 Aug) that, since the anti-government protests of 2018, the government has 'outlawed or closed more than 3000 civic groups and non-governmental organizations'. In its report, The Tablet notes (16 Aug), 'Since 2021 the government has imposed restrictions on 25 private universities, including the Protestant Martin Luther King University.' In May of this year, the government ordered the Nicaraguan Red Cross shut down, accusing it of 'attacks on peace and stability'. In June, the government confiscated properties belonging to 222 forcibly exiled political prisoners, comprising church leaders, rights activists, journalists, and lawyers [see RLPB 681, Forced Exile and Imprisonment, 22 Feb 2023]. Please pray for the Church in Nicaragua.

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

The Sixth Commandment:
What Does It Mean To Be People Who Preserve Life?

Deuteronomy 19-24

- I. Introduction to case law

- II. What does it actually look like to live out the sixth commandment (Dt 5:17)
 - A. Cities of refuge, accidental & premeditated murders (Dt 19:1-13)

 - B. What is the relationship between murder and warfare?
 1. God is with us (Dt 20:3-4)

 2. God wanted 4 types of people excused from military service
 - a. Men who recently built a new house and have not dedicated it to God (20:5)
 - b. Men who recently planted a vineyard and haven't enjoyed its fruit (20:6)
 - c. Men who are engaged but haven't married yet (20:7)
 - d. Men who are fearful and fainthearted (20:8)
 - e. The first three categories seem to have to do with enjoying the gifts of God in life.
 - f. The last one is different; how the battle plan is to proceed (Dt 20:8)
 - (1) First they are to offer terms of peace, and only if these terms are rejected is a battle to ensue. (Dt 20:10-12)
 - (2) Second, they are not to destroy the fruit trees. (Dt 20:20)

C. Unsolved murders and the sanctity of life. (Dt 21:1-9)

D. The continuance of food supplies and those who bring forth life
(Dt 22:6-7)

E. Construction case law, safety precautions, and the 6th
commandment (Dt 22:8)

F. Skin diseases (Dt 24:8-9)

1. A refusal to listen to the priest would be tantamount to
intentionally murdering another person.

2. The lesson for us today has to do with any disease that is contagious
and guarantees death if spread.

G. The 6th commandment is about so much more than simply not killing
people, it is about preserving life in all the various ways that life can
be compromised (HC 107)

III. Jesus and the 6th commandment (Mt 5:21-26, Titus 3:3-8)

A. We are all guilty of breaking the sixth commandment.

B. Thankfully, Jesus restores life to those who are dead in their sins
and trespasses.

Announcements

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.

JANUARY SERIES SIMULCASTS COMING: The award-winning January Series of lectures and cultural arts is again coming to Third CRC of Lynden. The award-winning simulcasts are from Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Mich., with each segment received locally at 9:30 a.m. weekdays from Jan. 15 to Feb. 2. Admission is free. Enter the church basement Gathering Room off Sixth Street at Liberty Street. The Series is in its 37th year and aims to enlighten and enrich audiences through engagement with some of the culture shapers of our time. Topics include “Religious Liberty and the Human Good,” “The Lost Art of Dying,” and “Lessons I’ve Learned from Listening.”

FAITH FORMATION TIP: Eugene Peterson says of Scripture engagement, “Reading is an immense gift, but only if the words are assimilated, taken into the soul — eaten, chewed, gnawed, received in unhurried delight.” Read your favorite Scripture passage that way today. Take time to savor and “gnaw” on it, noticing any new insights that come to mind. Learn more at [crcna.org/ FaithPracticesProject](http://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject)

Servants for Sunday, January 7th

Scripture Reader: David R

Cookies: Marilyn, Avis, Evelyn

Prayer Room: Ida

E-Street Taxi: Ida

Greeters: Darryl, Rachel

Communion: Doug & Winnie

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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