

Hope United Methodist Church

October 4, 2026

The Heavenly Call

Pastor Jim Denton

Psalm 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Today's Music:

Opening Hymn: My Hope Is Built (UMH 368)

Prayer Hymn: We Gather Together (UMH 131)

Choir Anthem: The Heavens are Telling

Holy Communion: Come to the Table (TFWS 2264)

Closing Hymn: A Charge to Keep I have (UMH 413)

Prayer Concerns:

Claude, Shirley, Rosalie, Angela, Phyllis, Breanna, Dean, Mary, Amanda, Larry, Nancy, Jerry, Sheryl, James, Tim, Heidi, Pam, Lexi, Deanne, Dave, David, Elaine, Lisa, Mary Jo, Liliana, Tom, Don, Yvonne, Mikey, Daniel, Ramah, Francis, Jenny, Faith, Betty, Andrea, Steve, Dana, Michael, Jacqueline, Don, Stephanie, Katie, Linda, Richard, Julio, Jim, Jacob, Patrick, Kristen, Aiden, and for the families of Nina and Shirlee on their recent loss. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Our homebound: Adele, Mary, Fran, Irene, Betty, Diane

Worship Order

Welcome and Community Life

Prelude

Centering Words

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn*

Opening Prayer

Children's Message

Change for Change Collection

Time of Prayer | Prayer Hymn

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm Reading

Choral Anthem

Scripture Reading

Sermon

Holy Communion

Offering Our Gifts to God

Doxology | Prayer of Dedication*

Closing Hymn *

Dismissal with Blessing*

*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

Serving Today

Greeters: Sandy Han Horn, Anna Frankland

Ushers: Richard Miller

Acolyte: Bellamy Avina

Children's Message: Pastor Jim

Liturgist: Pat Mosley

Organist: David Bieschke

Fellowship: Wednesday Bible Study

Serving Next Sunday

Greeters: Sandy Van Horn, Anna Frankland

Ushers: Richard Miller

Acolyte: Ameya Serna

Children's Message: Katie Isaacs

Liturgist: Marcos Pontes

Organist: David Bieschke

Fellowship:

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 4

Youth Group @ 11:30am, Downstairs

Worship Committee @ 11:30am, Library

Missions @ 11:30am, Sunday School Room

Monday, October 5

UWFaith @ 11:00am, Library, Zoom

Dart Ball @ 11:30am, Basement

N.A. @ 11:30am, Sunday School Room

Operations @ 5:00pm, Library

Tuesday, October 6

Sonrise Seniors @ 10:30 am, Library

N.A. @ 11:30am, Sunday School Room

Wednesday, October 7

Quilters @ 10:00am, Narthex

Bible Study @ 10:30am, Library

Communications @ 4:30pm, Library

Brianna's Hope @ 6:00pm,

Narthex/Library

Thursday, October 8

Knit & Crochet @ 12:30pm, Library

Finance @ 6:00pm, Library

Social Justice @ 7:00pm, Zoom

Friday, October 9

N.A. @ 11:30am, Sunday School Room

Sunday, October 11

Youth Group @ 11:30am, Downstairs

LSA @ 1:00pm, Hope UMC, various rooms

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Announcements and Community News

October Second Mile Giving for Hope UMC – Hospice of the Calumet Area, a not-for-profit organization, guided by a simple but powerful mission: Cherishing Life. Our team is dedicated to helping patients and families navigate one of life's most difficult journeys with dignity, compassion, and personalized care. What sets Hospice of the Calumet Area apart is our commitment to caring not only for the patient, but for the entire family.

Introduction to Lay Servant Ministry - You are invited to join us for the Lay Servant Ministries course to begin or continue training for living out the call to make disciples for the transformation of our churches, communities, and world. This is an in-person Lay Servant Academy event. Attendance at all 4 sessions is required for credit. This class begins on October 11 and runs **October 11, 18, 25, and November 1, 1-4pm** at **Hope UMC, 7320 Northcote Ave., Hammond, IN. Register by October 8:**
<https://inumc.swoogo.com/introlayministry2026>

Pastor & Staff Appreciation Sunday – Join us **Sunday, October 25**, as we celebrate and honor our wonderful pastor and staff for their dedication, love, and faithful service to our Hope community! Join us for worship and fellowship as we show our gratitude. A basket will be available for cards and small gifts of appreciation. Let's come together to let our pastor and staff know how much they are loved and appreciated!

Trick-or- Treating Event — On **Tuesday, October 27**, Hope UMC combined with Messy Church and Community Preschool and Childcare will be having a Trick-or-Treating event for the community from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., in the community center. To help support this wonderful event, we are asking for Halloween candy donations. There will be a festive candy container by the Welcome Center for donations. Deadline for Candy Donations is **Sunday, October 25**.

CP & CC Fall Fundraiser October 1 - 20 - Our Butter Braid fundraiser has begun! We are selling delicious Butter Braid pastries, sweet cake rolls, and Amish pretzels. Items range from \$18-\$20. If you would like to place an order, please see the order form on the counter next to the church office. We truly appreciate your support, as it helps boost our general budget. No order is too small .

The altar flowers in worship are **in memory of Mary Carr**, given by Pat Mosley.

Remember to like and follow our Facebook page if you are social media:
www.facebook.com/INHopeUMC. And make sure you visit the website: inhopeumc.org/

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NEW HERE



**TITHE &
OFFERING**



**EXPANDED
BULLETIN**

Hope United Methodist Church

*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

Welcome and Community Life

Prelude

Centering Words

How have you experienced the power of resurrection in your own life?

Call to Worship

Leader: We live in a world that entices us with influence, power, and accolades.

People: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call.

Leader: Sometimes we find ourselves wishing for heaven without working to bring heaven to earth.

People: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call to live righteously here and now.

Leader: Other times, we find ourselves exhausted by working for the gospel, wondering if anything we do is making a difference.

People: We remind one another to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call, leaning on Christ as the source of our perseverance and hope.

Leader: Beloved, God calls us not to escape this world but to build the kingdom of God in this place and in this time.

People: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call to embody God's mercy and justice as we build God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

*Opening Hymn – My Hope Is Built (UMH 368)

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *[Refrain]*

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3 His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood. When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. *[Refrain]*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found! Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne! *[Refrain]*

Opening Prayer

Children's Message

Memory Verse: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! (Psalm 150:6)

Prayer Hymn - We Gather Together (UMH 131)

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

3 We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Prayers of the People

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Prayer Response – Hear Us, O God

Prayer of Illumination

O Lord, we are told that your words are sweeter than honey. May the words that are spoken, and the prayers in our hearts, be pleasing to you, our cornerstone. Amen.

A Psalm Reading – Psalm 19 (*Responsive*)

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

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People: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

People: yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

Leader: In them God has set a tent for the sun, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and runs its course with joy like a strong man.

People: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and there is nothing hid from its heat.

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

People: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

Leader: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

People: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

Leader: the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;

People: the ordinances of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

Leader: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

People: sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Leader: Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

People: But who can understand one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

Leader: Also keep your servant from the insolent; let them not have dominion over me!

People: Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.

Choral Anthem – The Heavens are Telling

Scripture Reading – Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in

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Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Pressing toward the Goal Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Sermon – “The Heavenly Call”

Communion Hymn - Come to the Table (TFWS 2264)

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.
All who are hungry and thirsty, come and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from this nail-scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Holy Communion

... Loving God, present and near. You are beyond our words and our understanding. Help us to remember that You are at once infinite, boundless, timeless, and eternal, but, at the same time, intimately entwined with our lives. You are with us no matter where we find ourselves.

When we have forgotten You, **Lord, have mercy.**

When we have failed to speak words of love, **Lord, have mercy.** When we have neglected the need of another, **Lord, have mercy.** Loving God, present and near, help us to recognize Your presence and nearness with us as we worship together. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

....

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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....

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

....

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering our Gifts to God

*The Doxology (UMH 94)

*Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn – A Charge to Keep I Have (UMH 413)**

- 1 A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify, a never-dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky.
- 2 To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill; O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will!
- 3 Arm me with jealous care, as in thy sight to live, and oh, thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give!
- 4 Help me to watch and pray, and on thyself rely, assured, if I my trust betray, I shall forever die.

Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude