

Hope United Methodist Church

August 23, 2026

Love Boldly
Pastor Jim Denton

Leviticus 19:9-18
Mark 12:28-34 & John 13:34-35

Today's Music:

Opening Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (UMH 384)

Prayer Hymn: Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (UMH 465)

Closing Hymn: The Summons (TFWS 2130)

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

Our homebound: Adele, Mary, Fran, Irene, Nina, Shirlee, 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
Old Testament Reading
Gospel Reading
Sermon
Lesser Thanksgiving
Offering Our Gifts to God
Doxology | Prayer of Dedication*
Closing Hymn *
Breakthrough Prayer*
Dismissal with Blessing*
*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

Serving Today

Greeters: Irma Mora
Ushers: Irma Mora
Acolyte: RJ Heady
Children's Message: Cyndi Slaboski
Liturgist: Carrie Ward
Organist: David Bieschke
Fellowship: Marcos Pontes & Dave Bieschke

Serving Next Sunday

Greeters: Irma Mora
Ushers: Irma Mora
Acolyte: Bellamy Avina
Children's Message: Carrie Ward
Liturgist: Nancy Craig
Organist: David Bieschke
Fellowship:

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, August 23

Endowment @ 1:00pm, Children Sunday School Room
Neighborhood Meal @ 5:00pm, Emmaus Group

Monday, August 24

Phil's Friends @ 10:00am, Library
Dart Ball @ 11:30 am, Basement
UW Faith Potluck @ 11:30am, Narthex

Tuesday, August 25

Sonrise Seniors @ 10:30 am, Library
Messy Church @ 6:00pm, Community Center

Wednesday, August 26

Quilters @ 10:00am, Narthex
Brianna's Hope @ 6:00pm, Narthex/Library

Thursday, August 27

Social Justice Ministry @ 7:00pm, Zoom

Sunday, August 30

Safe Sanctuary Training @ 11:30am, Children Sunday School Room

Hope United Methodist Church

Announcements and Community News

August Second Mile Giving for Hope UMC - Brianna's Hope. Brianna's Hope is a faith-based addiction support group that is centered on helping recovering addicts. Brianna's Hope meets on Wednesdays from 6 – 8 P.M. A meal is provided at 6:00 PM.

Knit & Crochet Group - The Knit & Crochet Group, which meets on Thursday afternoons at 12:30 p.m., will be on **break through Thursday, September 10**, and will resume meeting on **Thursday, September 17, at 12:30 p.m.**

United Women in Faith Potluck - Join the United Women in Faith for a potluck luncheon tomorrow **August 24, at 11:30 a.m.** in the **Narthex**. Everyone is welcome! We hope you'll join us for good food, fellowship, and community.

The Next **Messy Church** event is on **Tuesday, August 25** from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Hope UMC, Community Center.

Safe Sanctuary Training - All church staff and volunteers who work with children and youth are required to participate annually in Safe Sanctuary Training. A training session will be offered on **Sunday, August 30** after worship. The session will last approximately 30 minutes. If you cannot attend on this date, a virtual option will be available as well. Please see Niki Avina if you have questions.

Northern Lakes Fall Lay Servant Academy – Join us for the **Lay Servant Ministries Academy** to begin or continue your lay servant training. **Classes meet Sundays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, & 27**, from 2:00–5:00 p.m. at Hebron UMC, 202 W. Church St., Hebron, IN. Attendance at all four sessions is required for credit. Cost: \$10. Register by Sept. 6 at <https://inumc.swoogo.com/hebronfall2026>. For more information, contact Karen Williams at 219-869-2324 or mrs.karen.wms@gmail.com.

The altar flowers in worship this morning are **in memory of Mom's Birthday**, given by Marcos Pontes

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**

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*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

Welcome and Community Life

Prelude

Centering Words

Call to Worship

Leader: Family of God, who are you?

People: We are disciples formed in the image of Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Family of God, how does Jesus form you?

People: By loving us and showing us how to love.

Leader: Family of God, how does the Holy Spirit empower you?

People: By loving us and inspiring us to love others as Christ loves us.

Leader: Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!

People: We come to worship God, who shows us how to love and calls us to boldly love God and neighbor, that we may be disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world. Amen.

*Opening Hymn – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (UMH 384)

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown! Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast! Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Hope United Methodist Church

Opening Prayer

Children's Message

Memory Verse: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:39)

Prayer Hymn – Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (UMH 465)

1. Holy Spirit, Truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine; Word of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.
2. Holy Spirit, Love divine, glow within this heart of mine; kindle every high desire; perish self in thy pure fire.
3. Holy Spirit, Power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine; grant that I may strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive.
4. Holy Spirit, Right divine, King within my conscience reign; be my Lord, and I shall be firmly bound, forever 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 – Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (TFWS 2193)

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Prayer of Illumination

God of boldness, we confess that it feels risky to show the vulnerability that is part of love. May the word we hear today call us to embrace the new commandment to love you with everything and love others the same way. Open our hearts and minds and shape our wills to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously as we learn to walk more faithfully in your presence. Amen

Old Testament Reading - Leviticus 19:9-18

“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God. “You shall not steal; you

Hope United Methodist Church

shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the Lord.

“You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am the Lord.

“You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood of your neighbor is at stake: I am the Lord.

“You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Gloria Patri (UMH 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Gospel Reading - Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

John 13:34-35

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Sermon – “Love Boldly”

Hope United Methodist Church

Lesser Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Offering our Gifts to God

*The Doxology (UMH 94)

*Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn - The Summons (TFWS 2130)**

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let me life be grown in you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

***Breakthrough Prayer**

God of new beginnings and second chances. When your son, Jesus the Christ gave his life for us, the veil of separation was torn. Breakthrough all that would keep us separate from one another, from our

Hope United Methodist Church

neighbors, and from you that we may be one just as you and the Father are one. Lead us now into your beloved community where our identity is rooted in Christ alone.

Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude