

# Hope United Methodist Church

January 25, 2026

## Sunday Service

### Carrying the Light

Pastor Jim Denton

Psalm 27:1,4-10

## Today's Music:

Opening Hymn: The Church's One Foundation (UMH 545)  
Prayer Hymn: Lord of All Hopefulness (TFWS 2197, verses 1,3)  
Closing Hymn: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (TFWS 2129)  
Choir Anthem: The Heavens Are Telling

## Prayer Concerns:

Claude, Shirley, Rosalie, Angela, Jim, Phyllis, Breanna, Dean, Mary, Amanda, Larry, Nancy, Jerry, Sheryl, James, Tim, Heidi, Pam, Lexi, Deanne, Dave, David, Elaine, Lisa, Mary Jo, Jacob, Liliana, Tom, Don, Yvonne, Mikey, Daniel, Ramah, Francis, Jenny, Faith, Jacob, Betty, Andrea, Kristen, Steve, Dana, Denny, Michael, Jacqueline

**Our homebound:** Wayne, Adele, Mary, Sandy, Fran, Irene, Nina, Shirlee, Betty, Diane

## Worship Order

Welcome and Community Life  
Prelude  
Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn\*  
Opening Prayer  
Children's Message  
Change for Change Collection  
Time of Prayer | Prayer Hymn  
Choral Anthem  
Scripture Readings  
Sermon  
Apostle's Creed  
Lesser Thanksgiving  
Offering Our Gifts to God  
Doxology | Prayer of Dedication\*  
Closing Hymn \*  
Breakthrough Prayer\*  
Dismissal with Blessing\*

\*Please stand as comfortable

## Serving Today

**Greeters:** Phyllis Sovola, Irma Mora  
**Ushers:** Pete Ward, Richard Miller  
**Acolyte:** RJ Heady  
**Children's Message:** Pat Mosley  
**Liturgist:** Nancy Craig  
**Fellowship:**

## Serving Next Sunday

**Greeters:** Yvonne Jackson  
**Ushers:** Irma Mora, Fran Vukovich  
**Acolyte:** Bellamy Avina  
**Children's Message:** Pastor Jim  
**Liturgist:** Pat Mosley  
**Fellowship:** Marcos Pontes & Dave Bieschke

## Weekly Calendar

**Sunday, Jan. 25**  
Merger Next Steps Workshop @ 11:30am, Community Center  
**Monday, Jan. 26**  
Phil's Friends @ 10:00am, Library  
Dart Ball @ 11:30 am, Basement  
Missions @ 6:00pm, Library  
**Tuesday, Jan. 27**  
Sonrise Seniors @ 10:30 am, Library  
Messy Church @ 6:00pm, Community Center  
**Wednesday, Jan. 28**  
Quilters @ 10:00am, Narthex  
Bible Study @ 10:30am, Library  
Brianna's Hope @ 6:00pm, Narthex/Library  
Praise Bells @ 7:00 pm, Sanctuary  
**Thursday, Jan. 29**  
Knit & Crochet @ 12:30pm, Library  
Social Justice Ministry @ 7:00pm, Via Zoom  
**Sunday, Feb. 1**  
Adult Bible Study, @ 11:30am, Library  
Confirmation Class @ 11:30am, Basement

# Hope United Methodist Church

## Announcements and Community News

### January Second Mile Giving for Hope UMC - The Neighborhood Meal

**Next Steps Merger Workshop Seminar – Today after worship**, Hope UMC will be having a Next Steps Merger Workshop Seminar in the community center. Rev. Shannon Stringer and Rev. Dr. Cindy Reynolds will be leading us as we discover how to continue to grow together as Hope UMC. A light lunch will be provided.

**Messy Church** – The Next Messy Church event is on Tuesday, **January 27** from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Hope UMC, Community Center.

**Northern Lakes District Leadership University 2026** - Free Zoom workshops for laity and clergy will be held Sat., Jan. 31 (9am–noon CST) and Sat., Feb. 7, 2026 (8–11am CST). Register by Jan. 30 or Feb. 6. Learn more and register at [inumc.org/districts/northern-lakes-district](https://inumc.org/districts/northern-lakes-district) or contact Eva Goeb - [eva.goeb@inumc.org](mailto:eva.goeb@inumc.org)


**2026 Annual Conference Session** - Thinking about how to get more involved in the Conference in the new year? **The District Equalization Members' Willingness to Serve** form gathers names of those willing to serve as an equalizing member at the 2026 Annual Conference Session. To express your willingness to serve and find more information visit <https://inumc.swoogo.com/Serve2026>. The application deadline is **February 2** at 11:59 p.m. Questions, please see Pastor Jim or Pat Mosley.


**Michigan City United Women in Faith** is inviting any ladies to their 75th Valentine Tea. It will be held at First United Methodist Church at 121 E 7th Street in Michigan City on **February 14** at 1:00 PM. It will be their last tea and want to share with as many people as possible. Contact Lora Ward at 708-650-6417 if you are interested in going.

**Chili Cook-Off** – Mark your calendar! on **February 15** after worship Hope UMC will have a Chili Cook-Off. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Remember to like and follow our Facebook page if you are social media: [www.facebook.com/INHopeUMC](https://www.facebook.com/INHopeUMC). And make sure you visit the website: [inumc.org](https://inumc.org)

 7320 Northcote Ave, Hammond, IN

 (219) 844-3030

 [www.inHopeUMC.org](https://www.inHopeUMC.org)

 [admin@inhopeumc.org](mailto:admin@inhopeumc.org)

**Pastor Jim Denton - (219) 281-1054**  
[james.denton@inumc.org](mailto:james.denton@inumc.org)



**NEW**



**TITHE &  
OFFERING**



**EXPANDED  
BULLETIN**

# Hope United Methodist Church

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\*Please stand, as you are comfortable.

## Welcome and Community Life

### Prelude

### Call to Worship

Leader: Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:

**People: God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?**

Leader: When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:

**People: God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?**

Leader: No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.

**People: God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!

**People: We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn – The Church's One Foundation (UMH 545)

1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord; she is his new creation by water and the Word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

2 Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth; her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth; one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed, yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

4 Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore; till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won. O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

### Opening Prayer

### Children's Message

Memory Verse: Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. (Isaiah 26:4)

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## **Prayer Hymn** - Lord of All Hopefulness TFWS 2197 (verses 1,3)

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy: Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace: Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

## **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 (UMH 490)

## **Choral Anthem** – The Heavens Are Telling

## **Prayer of Illumination**

## **Scripture Reading**

### **Psalms 27:1, 4-10**

Leader: The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after:

**People: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord's temple.**

Leader: The Lord will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble, will conceal me under the cover of his tent, and will set me high upon a rock.

**People: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me; and I will offer sacrifices in the Lord's tent with shouts of joy: I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Leader: Here, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

**People: "Come," my heart said, "seek the Lord's face." Your face, O Lord, I seek.**

Leader: Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away and anger, for you have been my help.

**People: Cast me not off, forsake me not, O God of my salvation!**

Leader: The Word of God

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **Sermon** - "Carrying the Light"

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## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **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 95)

\*Prayer of Dedication

## **\*Closing Hymn – I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (TFWS 2129)**

1 I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back.

2 The world behind me, the cross before me. The world behind me, the cross before me. The world behind me, the cross before me, no turning back, no turning back.

3 Though none go with me, still I will follow. Though none go with me, still I will follow. Though none go with me, still I will follow, no turning back, no turning back.

## **\*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 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**