

# Hope United Methodist Church

July 5, 2026

## Delight in the Law

Pastor Jim Denton

Romans 7:15-25a

## Today's Music:

Opening Hymn: Come Thou Fount (UMH 400)

Prayer Hymn: Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (UMH 348)

Closing Hymn: How Firm a Foundation (UMH 529)

## 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, Michael, Jacqueline, Don, Stephanie, Katie, Linda, Richard.

*For family of Jo Ann on their recent loss. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.*

**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  
Scripture Reading  
Sermon  
Holy Communion  
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, Estelle Vasek  
**Ushers:** Irma Mora  
**Acolyte:** Sofia Smith  
**Children's Message:** Pastor Jim  
**Liturgist:** Pat Mosley  
**Organist:** David Bieschke  
**Fellowship:** Cheryle, Pat, Char

## Serving Next Sunday

**Greeters:** Irma Mora, Estelle Vasek  
**Ushers:** Irma Mora  
**Acolyte:** Georgia Heady  
**Children's Message:** Maureen Tedesco  
**Liturgist:** Marcos Pontes  
**Organist:** David Bieschke  
**Fellowship:** Harold Fink/Yvonne Jackson

## Weekly Calendar

### Monday, July 6

Dart Ball @ 11:30 am, Basement  
Operations @ 5:00pm, Library

### Tuesday, July 7

Sonrise Seniors @ 10:30 am, Library

### Wednesday, July 8

Life Line Screening 8am-5:30pm, CC  
Quilters @ 10:00am, Narthex  
Brianna's Hope @ 6:00pm,  
Narthex/Library

### Thursday, July 9

Knit & Crochet @ 12:30pm, Library  
Finance @ 6:00pm, Library

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## Announcements and Community News


**July Second Mile Giving for Hope UMC** - Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana - is a wonderful non-profit organization that's all about making a difference in Lake County by providing affordable housing and revitalizing communities. They believe in the power of community and work tirelessly to help local families find strength, stability, and self-reliance through sustainable homeownership. For more info: <https://nwihabitat.org>


**Life Line Screening Coming to Hope UMC** - Did you know 80% of strokes are preventable according to the American Heart Association? Life Line Screening provides valuable health screenings to detect the risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease. Life Line Screening will be **at Hope UMC on July 8** and are offering a special screening package price. Learn more and schedule your appointment by calling 1-800-324-9458, texting the word "circle" to 216- 279-1607 or visit Life Line Screening's website at [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://llsa.social/habc).


**Justice and Mercy for All (JAM):** The Social Justice Ministry group will take a short break during July. Meetings **resume via Zoom in August** on the **second and fourth Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome! For more information, contact the church office or Joe and Mary Jo Shea.


The altar flowers in worship this morning are **in memory of John David & Bruce Zehr**, given by Joan Link

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: [inhopeumc.org/](https://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: We gather to worship God with our full, imperfect selves.

**People: We come to delight in the law of God, who is Love.**

Leader: We gather as people who don't always know what to do in the face of difficult and complex circumstances.

**People: We come to delight in the law of God, who is Love.**

Leader: We gather as people who desire to follow God with our actions but struggle to connect what we want to do with what we actually do.

**People: We come to delight in the law of God, who is Love.**

Leader: Whether you come to worship today wondering if there is anything good left in the world or rejoicing in the small moments of goodness that remind you grace is still at work among us, you are welcome here.

**People: We come to delight in the law of God, whose grace shows us how to live, work, play, and rest as a community of faith woven together by Love. Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn – Come Thou Fount (UMH 400)

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

2 Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

### Opening Prayer

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## Children's Message

Memory Verse: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me (Psalm 51:10)

## Prayer Hymn – Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (UMH 348)

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me; see, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

[Refrain] Come home, come home; you who are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? [Refrain]

3 Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing, passing from you and from me; shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming, coming for you and for me. [Refrain]

4 O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. [Refrain]

## 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)

## Prayer of Illumination

Lord, let us experience delight for your word in our inmost selves with our minds and with our hearts, with our bodies and with our souls. All parts joined together in the grace you freely give. Amen.

## Scripture Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

I don't know what I'm doing, because I don't do what I want to do. Instead, I do the thing that I hate. But if I'm doing the thing that I don't want to do, I'm agreeing that the Law is right. But now I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it's sin that lives in me. I know that good doesn't live in me—that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do

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the evil that I don't want to do. But if I do the very thing that I don't want to do, then I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it is sin that lives in me that is doing it.

So I find that, as a rule, when I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me. I gladly agree with the Law on the inside, but I see a different law at work in my body. It wages a war against the law of my mind and takes me prisoner with the law of sin that is in my body. I'm a miserable human being. Who will deliver me from this dead corpse? Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then I'm a slave to God's Law in my mind, but I'm a slave to sin's law in my body.

**Sermon – “Delight in the Law”**

## **Holy Communion**

...Thank you, God, for your Son Jesus, who will make it all right. Thank you for your Son Jesus. He will heal our sin-sick souls. Thank you, God, for Jesus Christ, our Lord. When we find it difficult to do the right thing, we will place our trust in you. We are convinced that we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. Glory to God! 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.**

....

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**

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**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 – How Firm a Foundation (UMH 529)**

1 How firm a foundation, yet saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 "The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

## **\*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**