

# REAL



**Contemporary Worship**  
**April 26, 2026**



## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

We are so glad you are here, and we would love to connect with you. Let us know you are here by scanning this QR code or by visiting:  
[www.canterburyumc.org/attendance](http://www.canterburyumc.org/attendance)

We look forward to connecting with you!

**Senior Pastor** - Rev. Keith Thompson

**Pastor** - Rev. Hill Carmichael

**Pastor** - Rev. Tori Hastings

**Pastor** - Dr. Bill Morgan

**Pastor** - Rev. Matthew Montgomery

**Pastor** - Dr. Rick Owen

**Youth Pastor** - Rev. Gann Waters - Wright

**Bishop in Residence** - Dr. Mike Watson

**Director of Contemporary Music** - Natalie Moon

# REAL

## Who Are We

As people of the church, we are committed to following Jesus with an authentic faith. We seek to be real and authentic in every part of our lives because we believe that Jesus wants to know us. We also believe that Jesus wants to meet us wherever we are in life. At Canterbury United Methodist Church, this is what it means to be in relationship with Christ. Jesus said the most important thing we can do is to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and love our neighbor as our self. This simple yet profound statement represents the real grace and real love Jesus has for all people, particularly those whom the rest of the world often overlooks. This statement from Jesus also represents the very nature of who God is. Through sharing real grace and real love with people, Jesus brought healing into their lives. At Canterbury, we seek to follow Jesus' example, striving to share and experience real grace and real love in our real life.

## Real Grace

Grace stands as a central tenant to our community. It is at the very core of who we are as children of God because it is part of our lives before we are even aware of it. We confess that we are each imperfect, regularly falling short of our own standards and God's. God loves us anyway just as we are. God initiates every relationship with us through grace. God's grace can never be earned, it is all gift. We, as God's children, strive to do the same with each other. We start with grace given to us by God. We live offering the same grace to ourselves and one another.

## Real Love

In a world where people are sometimes criticized for being different, the people of the church are called to be intentionally different. Our Holy Scriptures remind us that we are all created in the image of God; and, if God is Love, then we are created in the image of love. God as revealed in Jesus Christ is what real love looks like. When we are most true to who we are created to be, we are loving. At Canterbury, we seek to embody that love is patient and kind ... and we particularly like it best when it is a verb.

## Real Life

God constantly invites us into a life of full connection with God and others through Jesus Christ. This is the real life we are created for. Nothing but relationship with God and each other will truly satisfy the longing inside us. We believe this is the path to real, abundant life. Our desire is to walk this path together.

# Welcome to Canterbury

## ***We are so glad you chose to worship with us today!***

We want you to feel at home. Through close relationships, the study of scripture, education, and caring for others, our goal is to connect you to God, each other, and His world in a real and meaningful way. We want to be a place where you will meet Jesus exactly where you are. You will find a community of real people, led by leaders who express their real experiences to help renew and empower you to follow Him. So no matter where you are in life, we invite you to come as you are and to live for something greater. If you need help finding your way around, we have welcome guides located at our main entrances and outside the worship areas. We look forward to connecting with you!

## **WORSHIP:**

**Children in Worship** All children are welcome in worship! The sights, sounds, and interactions of worship are appropriate for every age. Worship Activity bags, Sensory bags, and other resources are available as you enter. If you have a child with sensory challenges who might need a break from worship, we have a Sensory Room located on the 2nd floor of the Children's Building. Excellent nursery care is available to children through 4 years.

- *Make sure your children get a worship activity pack from the wall when entering Canterbury Center.*
- *The Children's Comfort Room is in the back hallway.*

**Worship Online** We strive to be a church that is accessible to you whenever and however you need us! All worship services are available online:

### **Website:**

[www.canterburyumc.org/worship/worship-online](http://www.canterburyumc.org/worship/worship-online)

### **YouTube:**

[www.youtube.com/@CanterburyUMC](http://www.youtube.com/@CanterburyUMC)

## **NEXT STEPS**

If you are new to Canterbury, this is a great class for those who want to learn more about our church. Held on Sunday mornings, it provides an overview of what makes Canterbury thrive. You can find out more about the church, ask questions, and make personal connections. Sundays, 9:15-10:15 AM in the Dining Room. For questions or to sign up for the next session, please contact Becky King at [becky.king@canterburyumc.org](mailto:becky.king@canterburyumc.org).

## **MEET WITH OUR PASTORS:**

Our pastors would love to meet with you over coffee and get to know you. You can bring any questions you might have and get to know a little more about Canterbury, and anything else you want to talk about. Contact Matthew Montgomery at [matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org](mailto:matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org) or 205-868-6588, to set that up.

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## **CONTACT US:**

**Church Office:** 205-871-4695

**To Join:** [matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org](mailto:matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org)  
205-868-6590 x 2327

**Pastoral Care Response Line:** 205-999-4887

**[canterburyumc.org](http://canterburyumc.org)**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WORSHIP IS AN AWARENESS AND EXPRESSION OF GOD'S PRESENCE LIVED OUT MOMENT BY MOMENT

### ***We Gather In God's Presence***

#### ***Rest On Us***

Welcome & Greeting

Children's Moment

### ***We Prepare Our Hearts With Song***

#### ***Goodbye Yesterday***

#### ***Blessed Assurance***

### ***We Respond To God***

God's People Pray

God's People Give

#### ***Jesus I Have My Doubts***

### ***We Listen For God's Voice***

John 20: 24-29

Sermon

#### ***Tend***

### ***We Go To Live Like Jesus***

Reminder of God's Promises

A Challenge to Live Like Jesus

**SERMON NOTES:**

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**Thanksgiving for the life of**

Courtenay Renneker (Ann Bloodworth's brother).....April 19, 2026

**Congratulations to**

James & Laura Carpenter, the proud parents of a baby girl, Frances "Frannie" D'Olive Carpenter, born on April 16, 2026.

# Happening at Canterbury

## Love Again Toy Drive | Now - April 28

Share joy with children in Alabama's Black Belt by donating gently used toys and games (no furniture or clothing). Drop items in the Attic Plus truck in the parking lot by 4/28.

## Kenya Mission & Water Filter Fundraiser

This summer, a team from Canterbury will travel to Nakuru, Kenya, partnering with Start With One Kenya to share Christ's love in tangible ways. We invite you to support our Abundant Life Water Filters initiative, providing UZIMA ("life") water filtration systems for families without safe drinking water. Your gifts will be shared equally - supporting the purchase of filters and helping send our team to serve.



Thank you for being part of this life-giving mission! Donate any amount by scanning the QR code, or delivering a check to the Finance Office marked Kenya Mission.

## UMW Spring Luncheon Meeting | May 4 | 10:30 AM

Join us for the UMW Spring Meeting and Luncheon on May 4 at 10:30 AM in Wesley Hall. We will welcome Stacy Smith, who will share about her upcoming commissioning as our church's missionary to Tanzania, where she will teach at Wesley College. We will also present the Anne Berte Award. Lunch will be provided by Ashley Mac's. (\$18) Reserve your lunch by April 28, contact Leigh Isbell.

## Senior Night | May 3 | 5:30 PM

Join us Sunday, May 3 as we celebrate our incredible graduating Seniors! It will be at 5:30 PM in Canterbury Hall, and all 7th-11th grade YACs are encouraged to attend to support our 12th graders!

Register: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth)

## Calm Before the Stork | May 3 | 9:30 AM

Growing your family through birth, adoption, or fostering? Join us to learn how Canterbury will support you in these sacred days. We'll cover baptism, nursery and Sunday School, and share helpful resources for your little one—plus get you on our prayer list.

Register: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children)

## Mom & Me Cupcake Challenge | May 3 | 2 PM

Kids! You're invited to a super sweet afternoon of fun at 2 PM in Canterbury Hall. Bring your mom, grandmother, or a special adult friend and team to decorate based on our surprise theme. Get creative, add a little friendly competition, and enjoy plenty of frosting, sprinkles, and laughter along the way.

Register: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children)

## Women's Serve Night | May 7 | 6 PM

ALL Canterbury Women! Join us as we host the girls of Grace House for a special night of dinner, crafts, and connection. Serve as a buddy, help with dinner or crafts, or float where needed. Come be part of this meaningful evening! Scan the QR code to register.



## David Thomas & Sissy Goff | April 28 Capable: The Book Tour

David Thomas returns to Canterbury with Sissy Goff for a meaningful evening for parents. With more than 30 years of experience as therapists at Daystar Counseling Ministries, they offer practical wisdom and deep compassion for children and families. As authors, speakers, and hosts of the Raising Boys & Girls podcast, they'll share insights from their new book, *Capable: How To Teach Your Kids the Strengths, Skills, and Strategies to Build Resilience*. *This is a must-attend event for all parents!*



Purchase Tickets: [www.tprlive.co](http://www.tprlive.co)  
Or scan the QR code!

# SPRING READING PLAN

*Galatians*



We're starting a new book, Galatians!  
Scan the QR code for daily devotionals,  
or look for our weekly email on Sunday night!



 [canterburyumc.org/2026-reading-plan](https://canterburyumc.org/2026-reading-plan)



**Puccini's**  
Messa di  
**Gloria**  
**April 26**  
**4:30 p.m.**  
Sanctuary | free

**The Canterbury Choir**  
with orchestra  
Lester Seigel, director



*You are invited...*

**Canterbury Choir Concert**  
**April 26 | 4:30 PM**  
**Sanctuary**

Experience the beauty and power of Giacomo Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* in a stunning performance by our Canterbury Choir, accompanied by full orchestra. This beloved masterpiece blends rich harmonies and soaring melodies, creating a deeply moving and unforgettable musical experience. Join us in the Sanctuary for an inspiring afternoon that uplifts the soul and stirs the spirit. Invite a friend and come be part of this meaningful time together.

This special concert is free and open to all.



[www.canterburyumc.org](http://www.canterburyumc.org)