

# REAL



**Contemporary Worship**

**May 17, 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***

#### ***King of Glory***

Welcome & Greeting

Children's Moment

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

#### ***House of the Lord***

#### ***King of Kings***

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

God's People Pray

God's People Give

#### ***Come As You Are***

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

John 17: 1-11

Sermon

#### ***Holy Forever***

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

Reminder of God's Promises

A Challenge to Live Like Jesus

**SERMON NOTES:**

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# Happening at Canterbury

## Summer Combined Worship Begins May 24 | 10:30 AM

Summer is almost here and we will begin the combined schedule for 10:30 AM worship starting Memorial Day Weekend. Also, Sunday School will not be held on May 24.

Note: *New Traditions* will be held each Sunday at 8:15 AM as regularly scheduled.

### 10:30 AM WORSHIP

- MAY 24 Combined in Sanctuary
- MAY 31 Combined in Canterbury Center
- JUNE 7 Combined in Sanctuary
- JUNE 14 Combined in Canterbury Center
- JUNE 21 Combined in Sanctuary
- JUNE 28 Combined in Canterbury Center

## Encore 10 Year Celebration May 31 | 11:30 AM

Encore is turning 10 this summer, and we'd love

for you to celebrate with us! Join us on May 31 at 10:30 during the Contemporary Service for a special Encore recognition, then continue the celebration at 11:30 in Canterbury Hall with refreshments, fellowship, and everyone's Encore favorite -- banana pudding!



## Register for Youth Summer Activities

Make plans for an unforgettable summer!

### • Senior High Lake Trip (June 5–7)

A fun-filled weekend at Lake Martin with time on the water, games, and meaningful connection. Open to students who have completed grades 10–12.

### • Junior High Adventure (June 15–18)

Head to the Nantahala Outdoor Center in North Carolina for rafting, outdoor activities, and tons of fun. Open to students who have completed grades 7–9.

### • Magic City Work Week (July 12–18)

A powerful week of service and community as we partner with Riverchase UMC to serve in West End, with daily mission work and worship. Open to students who have completed grades 7–12.

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

## Vacation Bible School | July 20-23 Volunteers Needed!

We have 250 children registered for VBS and we need volunteers to make that week a huge success! This is open to youth and adults of all ages. It is such a fun week! Sign up on the children's page of the church website or reach out to Eleanor Christiansen.

Sign up to Volunteer: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children/#summer](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children/#summer)



# SUMMER WORSHIP

This summer at Canterbury, join us for worship at 8:15 AM in the Chapel for New Traditions or for a combined worship service at 10:30 AM.

## **10:30 AM Worship Location Rotation:**

<b>May 24</b>	Sanctuary Worship
<b>May 31</b>	Contemporary Worship
<b>June 7</b>	Sanctuary Worship
<b>June 14</b>	Contemporary Worship
<b>June 21</b>	Sanctuary Worship
<b>June 28</b>	Contemporary Worship
<b>July 5</b>	Sanctuary Worship
<b>July 12</b>	Contemporary Worship
<b>July 19</b>	Sanctuary Worship
<b>July 26</b>	Contemporary Worship
<b>August 2</b>	Sanctuary Worship
<b>August 9</b>	Contemporary Worship



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