

The Canterbury United Methodist Church Choir
The Choirs of Birmingham-Southern College
present

The 86th Service
of Lessons and Carols



Lodjie

by Ralph
Vaughan-Williams

with orchestra
Lester Seigel, conductor

with
Susan Williams, soprano
James Seay, tenor
Daniel Seigel, baritone

Sunday, December 3, 7:00 p.m.

Canterbury United Methodist Church
350 Overbrook Road



New Traditions

December 3, 2023

The Second Sunday of Advent

Thank you for visiting!

We are so glad to have you as our guest in worship and we would love to connect with you. Let us know you are here by scanning this QR code or by following this link: www.canterburyumc.org/attendance



Senior Pastor - Rev. Keith Thompson
Pastor - Rev. Hill Carmichael
Pastor - Rev. Tori Hastings
Pastor - Dr. Bill Morgan
Pastor - Rev. Sheryl Thornton
Pastor - Rev. Sam Williamson
Pastor - Rev. Matthew Montgomery
Children's Pastor - Rev. Ruth Grissom
Youth Pastor - Rev. Seth Moon
High School Pastor - Rev. Gann Waters - Wright
Bishop in Residence - Dr. Mike Watson
Choirmaster and Organist - Dr. Lester Seigel



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.

CANTERBURYUMC.ORG

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 sight, sounds, and interactions of worship are appropriate for every age. We have worship resources available as you enter the worship space including a Worship Activity bag. Excellent nursery care is also available to children through 4 years old, however we love having all ages worshipping together and look forward to the ways they can help us worship God.

Children's Ministry at Canterbury begins at birth. Nursery is provided for infants and preschoolers for all regularly scheduled worship services. Nursery for other activities and church events can be provided. Please feel free to contact Selena Pitsch at selena.pitsch@canterburyumc.org with any questions about nursery. Canterbury uses a computer check-in system as part of our Safe Sanctuary Policy.

Help us to celebrate the new life in our congregation by sharing the exciting news with us! We need you to let us know when your family is welcoming a new baby and hope you will contact linda.carpenter@canterburyumc.org so that we can all celebrate another child in our midst.

Things to Know:

- *Hearing assist devices are now available – ask an usher for assistance*
- *The Children's Comfort Room is a place where you may sit with your child. It is adjacent to the Narthex*

Watch Online We understand the challenges you face and we strive to be a church that is accessible to you whenever and however you need us. Our Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship services are available on our website.

CONNECT

Next Steps Class This class is a basic introduction to our church family and a wonderful time for you to continue building connections with other followers of Christ. Since many of us come from different church backgrounds, this class is designed to clearly explain who we are, what we believe, and how you can take the next steps in partnering with us to build the Kingdom of God. After attending these classes, it is our hope you will decide to make Canterbury your new church home. For more information, please contact Becky King at becky.king@canterburyumc.org.

MEET WITH ONE OF 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, the United Methodist Church, and anything else you want to talk about. Contact the church office at 205-871-4695 to set that up.

Contact Us

Church Office: 205.871.4695

To Join: matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org
205.868.6590 x2327

Pastoral Care Response Line: 205.999.4887

Order of Worship

How the Light Gets In

Welcome and Announcements

* Hymn 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Reader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

Valerie Boyd & Anne Warren

All: Thanks be to God

Let us pray:

All: Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people. Give peace in our hearts this Christmas season and remain present with us. Help us to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Our Advent Candle readers are volunteers in our Encore Respite Ministry.

Gloria In Excelsis

Daniel Seigel, cantor

Musical notation for the Gloria In Excelsis. The first line is marked *All f* and begins with a double bar line and repeat sign. The lyrics are: Glo - ry to God in the high - est! Sing glo - ry to God! The second line continues the melody with the lyrics: Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth!

Psalter Reading (Chanted)

Psalm 85:1 - 2, 10 - 13

Stan Nelson, cantor

Lord, you showed favor * to your land; | you restored the fortunes * of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquities of * your people; | you pardoned * all their sin.

Steadfast love and faithful-*ness shall meet; | righteousness and peace will kiss * each other.

Faithfulness will spring up * from the ground,

and righteousness will look down * from the sky.

The Lord will give * what is good, | and our land will yield * its increase.

Righteousness will go be-* fore the Lord, | and make God's foot-* steps a way.

The Word of God for the peo-*ple of God. **Thanks * be to God.**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, those things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All Pray in Silence

Kyrie 482

Jessie Mayne, cantor

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Words of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people. **Glory to God! Amen.**

* The Peace

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

Musical notation for The Peace. The lyrics are: Sha - lom, Sha - lom, the peace of God be here. Sha - lom, Sha - lom, God's jus - tice be ev - er near.

Lesson from the Prophets

Isaiah 40: 3 - 5

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Peace

Rev. Hill Carmichael

Response to the Word 224

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Anthem

Creator of the Stars of Night

arr. Steven Carraciolo

Creator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, We pray you, hear us when we call.
When this old world drew on toward night, You came, but not in splendor bright.
Not as a monarch, but the child Of Mary, blameless mother mild.
At Your great name, O Jesus, now All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things on earth with one accord. Like those in heaven, shall call You Lord.
Come in thy holy might, we pray; Redeemer us for eternal day;
Defend us while we dwell below From all assaults of our dread foe.
To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally.

*** Doxology & Wesley's Grace**

VENI EMMANUEL

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Be present at our table, Lord;
be here and everywhere adored;
Thy creatures bless, and grant that we
may feast in paradise with Thee.**

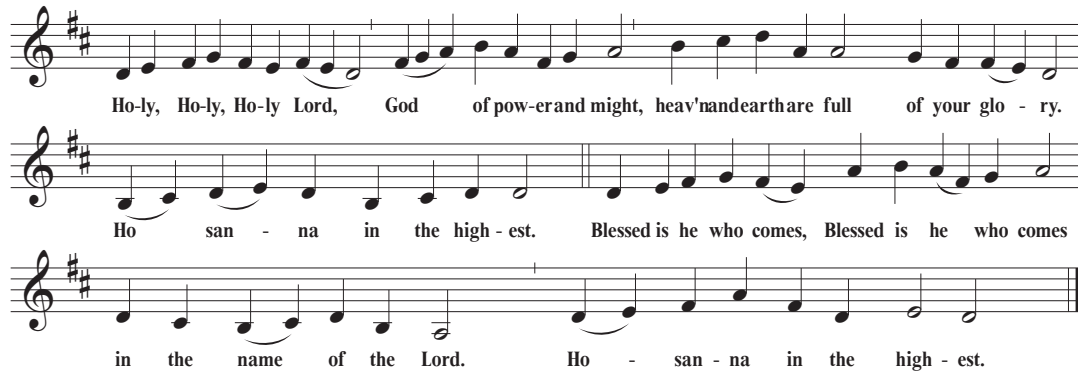
The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes, Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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 ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

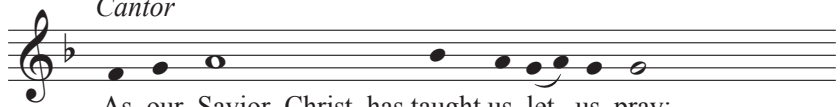
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



A - men, A - men, A - men.


The Lord's Prayer (Chanted)

Cantor




As our Savior Christ has taught us, let us pray:

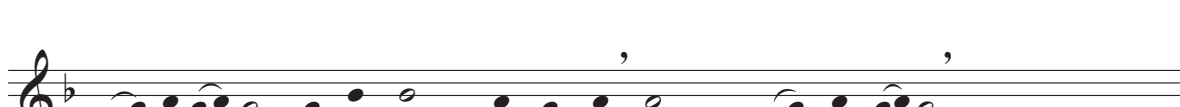
All




Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth



as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who



sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.



For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth. Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, become one as we partake of it. Is not the breaking of this bread a means of sharing in the body of Christ?

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine. Is not the cup a means of sharing in the blood of Christ?

Fraction Anthem

Agnus Dei

BELL AGNUS

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Receiving the Bread and Cup

All are welcome to receive the sacrament. You do not have to be a member of Canterbury or of the United Methodist Church. It is the Lord's table and all of God's children are welcome. Ushers will guide you.

Music During Communion

Lo, He Comes, With Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

* Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. May we be transformed into your image. 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.

* Reception of New Members

Elizabeth Bendall & Jake Dyson

We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to this congregation of the United Methodist Church. With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that, surrounded by steadfast love, you may be established in the faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

* Benediction

* Choral Response

Thanksgiving for the lives of

Edward "Ed" Hunter.....November 23, 2023
Ray Waddelow.....November 26, 2023

UMW General Meeting & Christmas Coffee | December 4 | 10:30 AM

Join us in Wesley Hall as we welcome Pastor Keith Thompson as our guest. He will share about Canterbury's trip to Israel this past September. At this meeting, we will be collecting baked goods and clementines for the Birmingham Work Release Christmas Brunch that Canterbury Outreach is planning. Also, plan to visit Community On The Rise's table after the meeting. They will have unique Christmas gift items for sale from 11:30 AM-1 PM by the 1st floor elevator. You do not have to be a UMW member to attend, join us!

Volunteers Needed! Samaritan Place Market: A Christmas Village | December 6 & 7

Thank you, Canterbury for generously donating Christmas toys for over 913 children this year for ASP's Christmas Village! The event itself will be held on December 6 & 7 and there still a few time slots available for volunteer opportunities. To learn more, visit: www.canterburyumc.org/outreach/seasonal

Charge Conference | December 11 | 6 :30 PM

Please note that a Charge Conference will take place on Monday, December 11 at 6:30 PM in Wesley Hall during the December Church Council meeting.

Legacy Luncheon | December 12 | 12 Noon

Don't miss our annual Christmas Carol Sing Along with the Canterbury staff! Enjoy a wonderful meal (\$5), sing a few Christmas favorites led by Rev. Keith Thompson, and share in fellowship and love as we embrace the spirit of hope this Christmas season. Please RSVP to valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org.

Canterbury "At Home" Christmas Deliveries

Do you want to give love and receive it back tenfold? Then please sign up to deliver special gifts to our members who cannot get out much and who would love to see your sweet face and maybe even a hug. We provide the gifts; we just need you to deliver any time after December 15. Please contact Valerie to sign up at valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org.

Poinsettias and Wreaths

To place a poinsettia or wreath in memory of or in honor of a friend or loved one, please complete this form:

Poinsettia _____ Wreath _____

Placed in Honor ____ Memory ____ of _____

By _____ Phone# _____

Make your check (\$20 per poinsettia or \$50 per wreath) payable to Canterbury UMC and return it with a copy of this form to the church office or to Paul McCracken, no later than Friday, December 8.

Christmas at Canterbury

Christmas Choir Musical | December 3 | 7 PM

The Birmingham-Southern Concert Choir, the Birmingham-Southern Alumni Choir and the Canterbury Chancel Choir will present Ralph Vaughan Williams Christmas musical Hodie. This cantata by Williams is a beautiful celebration of the season.

Side by Side Community Chorus | December 5 | 2 PM

Join us for "Melodies of the Season" on Tuesday, December 5 at 2 PM in Canterbury Hall. The 80-voice chorus and band will bring you the most heartwarming tunes and a few song stories, too! No tickets are required. Donations will be accepted at the door for Encore Community Respite's family care fund.

Festival of Trees | December 13 | 5-7 PM

Join us for Festival of Trees on Wednesday, December 13 from 5-7 PM. We will be celebrating many wonderful groups who are connected to Canterbury with a beautiful wonderland of trees! The evening will also include a live nativity - complete with animals and Baby Jesus - as well as a craft room for the kids.

Carols & Cocoa | December 17 | 6 PM

Bundle up and join the fun in the Chapel parking lot! We will enjoy some yummy hot chocolate, fire pits, and even better fellowship and Christmas music by the Contemporary Worship Team! Invite a friend and bring some chairs. See you there!

The Longest Night | December 21 | 6 PM

You are invited to a special worship service held on Winter Solstice - the longest night before Christmas. Join us at 6 PM in the Chapel, a sacred space, to reflect and accept where we really are, as we hold out for healing and hope this season.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24

- 8:15 AM New Traditions | Chapel
- 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship | Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship | Canterbury Center
- 3:00 PM Contemporary Worship | Canterbury Center
- 5:00 PM Sanctuary Worship | Sanctuary

All Christmas Eve services will be livestreamed.