



*and yet...*

## **Sanctuary Worship**

**December 15, 2024**

Third 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](http://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. Matthew Montgomery

**Pastor** - Dr. Rick Owen

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

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

**Choirmaster and Organist** - Dr. Lester Seigel

## 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. Here 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.

### 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 activity bags available as you enter the worship space. Excellent nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 for all regularly scheduled worship services.

### Things to Know

- Hearing assist devices are 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.

### Worship Online

#### Website

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

#### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/CanterburyUMChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CanterburyUMChurch)

#### YouTube

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

### CONNECT

**Next Steps Class** This 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 it is our hope you will decide to make Canterbury your new church home. To register for the next class, please contact Becky King at [becky.king@canterburyumc.org](mailto:becky.king@canterburyumc.org).

### CONTACT US

**Church Office:** 205.871.4695

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

**Membership:** Rev. Matthew Montgomery  
[matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org](mailto:matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org)  
205.868.6590 x2327

**Pastoral Care Response Line:** 205.999.4887



# Order of Worship

**Voluntary**

Meditation on “A Virgin Most Pure”

T. Tertius Noble

## Welcome and Announcements

\* **Processional Hymn 250**

Once in Royal David’s City

IRBY

## Children’s Moment

Eleanor Christiansen

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jeff and Linda Stone & Family

Leader: As we gather around the Advent wreath, we light the third candle, the candle of Joy. Joy is the result of our hope and peace in Christ, a deep and abiding gladness that comes from knowing and trusting in Him.

**All: Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!**

Leader: Let us remember the words of the angel who proclaimed the good news of Christ’s birth to the shepherds: “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

**All: In the midst of our waiting and preparation, we celebrate the joy that Christ brings into our lives, a joy that is eternal and unchanging.**

Leader: Let us pray:

**All: Gracious and loving God, in this season of Advent, we rejoice in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. May his presence fill us with joy, lifting our spirits and renewing our hope. Help us to spread this joy to others, sharing the good news of Christ’s birth with all we meet. Amen.**

Leader: May the light of Joy continue to shine brightly in our hearts as we anticipate and celebrate the coming of Christ. Amen.

**Sung Response: Love divine, all loves excelling, JOY from heaven to earth come down.**

\* **Affirmation of Faith**

The 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.**

\* **Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

\* **Passing of the Peace**

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

## Baptism

Caroline Rose King and Richard Alexander Barineau

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Our Lord has expressly given to little children a place among the people of God, which holy privilege must not be denied them. Remember the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, how He said, "*Let the children come to Me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God.*"

### To the parents

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you; Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people everywhere? **We do.**

Will you nurture Caroline Rose and Richard Alexander in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life? **We will.**

### To the congregation

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these families now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Caroline Rose and Richard Alexander, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

## The Baptism

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister and brother into the body of Christ.

**Through baptism we are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.**

## Call to Prayer

Love Came Down at Christmas

GARTAN

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.  
Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;  
Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

## Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

### Anthem

Ave Maria: A Choral Prayer

Jessicha Franchi

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you: blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, queen of heaven, sweet and holy; O mother of God, pray for us sinners, so that among the elect we may see you. (Traditional Marian hymn)

### \* Doxology

Sing to VENI EMMANUEL

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

### \* Hymn 198

My Soul Gives Glory to My God, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

MORNING SONG

### The Lesson

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

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

### Sermon

And Yet...Joy

Rev. Keith Thompson

### \* Closing Hymn 246

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

### Reception of New Members

Robert & Keller Crismon (Mae), Kristen & Rob Donnell

**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.**

### \* Dismissal & Blessing

### \* Recessional Prayer

Allen Harrell, cantor

### The flowers on the Sanctuary altar

Are placed in honor of Kaori Amarilla & Walker Philips who were united in holy matrimony on December 14, 2024.

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## PRESENTED FOR HOLY BAPTISM

CAROLINE ROSE KING  
June 18, 2024

RICHARD ALEXANDER BARINEAU  
June 12, 2024

Parents: Margaret & Mitchell King  
Sibling: Annie King

Grandparents: Cherie & Wes Smith,  
Rebecca & Holton King

Great-grandparents: Jean Phillips, Floyce Rose

Parents: Brailyn & Richard Barineau  
Sibling: Olivia Barineau

Grandparents: Jim & Sonja Hardy,  
Leslie Barineau

Great-grandparent: Edris Ramsey

# Happening at Canterbury

## **(Rescheduled) Side-by-Side Chorus Christmas Concert | December 19 | 2 PM**

NEW DATE! Due to weather, the concert was rescheduled and will now be held this Thursday, December 19 at 2 PM in Canterbury Hall. We hope you'll join us for this special music event. Free admission... donations will be accepted for the Encore Family Support Fund. See you there!

## **The Longest Night | December 19 | 6 PM**

You are invited to a special worship service to observe Winter Solstice – the longest night before Christmas. Join us at 6 PM in the Chapel on Thursday, December 19 – in a sacred space to reflect and accept where we really are, as we hold out for peace, healing and hope this season.

## **We want to hear from you! Submit your questions for our January sermon series!**

Visit <https://bit.ly/3ODnQR0> to submit questions for our next series, “Hey Siri...Life’s Big Questions.”

## **Outreach**

### **Christmas MOR Offering**

The Mission Outreach United Appeal Fund (MOR) Offering has benefited Canterbury and other ministries for many years. Your generous gift this Christmas will benefit the following ministries in 2025:

- EMBRACE ALABAMA KIDS (formerly United Methodist Children’s Home)
- AVONDALE SAMARITAN PLACE
- DISASTER RELIEF

We will receive this offering in our worship services on December 22 and in our Christmas Eve services. You may also choose to deliver your offering to the Finance Office. Please make your check payable to the Mission Outreach United Appeal Fund.

## **SAGE**

### **Legacy Luncheon | December 17 | 12 Noon**

Join the Canterbury Staff in Canterbury Hall for fun fellowship, lunch, and a Christmas carol singalong led by Rev. Keith Thompson! Lunch is \$5. Please RSVP to Valerie at [valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org](mailto:valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org).

### **Help Spread Christmas Joy | Beginning December 17**

We need a few helpful elves to deliver joy and love to our at home church members. To sign up, please contact Valerie at 205.874.1523 or [valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org](mailto:valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org).

## **United Methodist Women**

### **Women’s Dinner Event & Speaker Sophie Hudson | January 30 | 6 PM**

All ages are invited to join us for a special intergenerational dinner featuring author and popular speaker Sophie Hudson. Make plans to join us on Thursday, January 30, at 6 PM to enjoy a fun night of stories and learn ways to find encouragement and hope in the everyday, joy-filled moments of life. Nursery available. Tickets are \$25. Purchase online: [www.canterburyumc.org/community/united-methodist-women](http://www.canterburyumc.org/community/united-methodist-women)

## **Kids@Canterbury**

### **Gingerbread Nativities | December 23 | 10 AM**

Mark your calendar and make sure to bring your children to participate in this sweet and fun morning activity! We will read the nativity story and create our own unique gingerbread nativities to take home. Fun for kids of all ages! Registration not required.

### **A Storybook Christmas | December 24, | 1 PM**

NEW THIS YEAR! A casual, early afternoon Christmas Eve Communion service designed especially for families with children. Join us in Canterbury Center at 1 PM to experience a fun and unique telling of the nativity story, wonderful music, Christmas Eve communion and candlelight.

### **Wonderfully Made (5th & 6th grades) | January 10-11**

We will be leading an optional event for 5th & 6th graders to help educate them on human sexuality and Christian ethics on January 10-11. Our belief is that our church family provides an excellent learning environment about the importance of healthy and ethical choices of how we use our body, which can supplement conversations that have begun at home. This is a comprehensive weekend that requires a Friday night and Saturday commitment in order for your child to emerge with all the information shared in an appropriate context. Register at: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children)

## **Men's Ministry**

### **Winter Retreat | January 31-February 2**

Don't miss this retreat at Willow Point Golf and Country Club Villas featuring renowned author and speaker Dr. Leonard Sweet. This year's theme is "Smoke and Fire," exploring the power and transformative nature of God's presence in our lives. In addition to Dr. Sweet's teachings, the retreat will include outdoor activities, group discussions, and times of reflection. It's a great opportunity to grow spiritually, connect with other men in the church, and rejuvenate your faith. Register now at: [www.canterburyumc.org/mens-ministry](http://www.canterburyumc.org/mens-ministry)

### **Men's Breakfast | January 16 | 6:30 AM**

Make plans to join us for a great breakfast, wonderful fellowship, and a time of inspiration on January 16. To register: [www.canterburyumc.org/mens-breakfast](http://www.canterburyumc.org/mens-breakfast)

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**Year-End Giving Reminders** For your contributions to qualify as a 2024 tax-deductible donation, the IRS requires that they must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2024. *Here are the specific deadlines:*

- **BY MAIL** The postmark date on the envelope must be no later than December 31.
- **IN PERSON** If you wish to drop off your contribution, the finance office will be open until Noon on Tuesday, December 31 or you may insert your donation in the receptacle at the receptionist desk.
- **ONLINE GIVING** Online gifts must be entered before midnight, December 31. Visit: [canterburyumc.org/giving](http://canterburyumc.org/giving)
- **TEXT GIVING** Text gifts must be submitted before midnight, December 31. Text to 205-336-2111 the amount you wish to contribute to the 2024 ministry in the message area. Then follow link and instructions.
- **STOCK** Stock gifts must be transferred to the church before the stock market closes at 3:00 p.m. CST on December 31. Please notify Carolyn Phillips at 874-1553 by Noon with the details of your stock transaction and to confirm instructions.



# CHRISTMAS

## *at canterbury*

### **The Longest Night | 12.19**

This special service will be held at 6 PM in the Chapel on Thursday, December 19 – in a sacred space to reflect and accept where we really are, as we hold out for peace, healing and hope this season.

\* Service to be livestreamed

### **A Storybook Christmas | 12.24**

New this year! A casual, early afternoon communion service designed for families with children. Come experience a unique telling of the nativity story, wonderful music, communion and candlelight.

### **Christmas Eve Services**

New Traditions Service | 8:15 AM \*

A Storybook Christmas | 1 PM \*

Contemporary Service | 3 PM \*

Sanctuary Service | 3 PM

Sanctuary Service | 5 PM \*

\* Services to be livestreamed

For a full list of Christmas events and special services:

**[www.canterburyumc.org/worship/advent](http://www.canterburyumc.org/worship/advent)**

**DECEMBER 29** One service only | Canterbury Center | 10:30 AM