



*Oh
light*

Sanctuary Worship

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Thank you for joining us!

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. Matthew Montgomery

Pastor - Dr. Rick Owen

Youth Pastor - Rev. Gann Waters - Wright

Bishop in Residence - Dr. Mike Watson

Choirmaster and Organist - Dr. Lester Seigel

Crucifer - Leigh Anne Precise | **Acolyte** - Charlie Brandenburg



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. 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. 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 activity bags available as you enter the worship space. 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. Nursery is provided for infants and preschoolers for all regularly scheduled worship services. Canterbury uses a computer check-in system as part of our Safe Sanctuary Policy. Please email Breana Stallings at breana.stallings@canterburyumc.org with any questions about the nursery.

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 email linda.carpenter@canterburyumc.org so that we can all celebrate another child in our midst.

Things to Know - *Ask an usher for assistance!*

- *Listen Everywhere*, a bluetooth hearing app, is available as well as other hearing assist devices.
- The Children's Comfort Room is located adjacent to the Narthex, a quiet place for you and your child.

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

Website

www.canterburyumc.org/worship/worship-online

Facebook

www.facebook.com/CanterburyUMChurch

YouTube

www.youtube.com/@CanterburyUMC

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 quarterly 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. To set that up, contact the church office at 205-871-4695.

CONTACT US

Church Office: 205.871.4695

Membership: Rev. Matthew Montgomery
matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org
205.868.6590 x2327

Pastoral Care Response Line: 205.999.4887

Order of Worship

Voluntary

Gentle Mary, of Noble Visage
Rorate Coeli (Drop like dew from heaven)

Samuel Scheidt (15th c.)
Jeanne Demessieux

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Gann Waters-Wright

* Processional Hymn 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, vv. 1, 2, 4

ELLACOMBE

Lighting of the Advent Candle

John & Laurie Bullington, Mary Shaffer & Spencer Akin, Allie Patrick

As we gather around the Advent wreath, we light the second candle, the candle of Peace.

Peace is the gift that Christ brings, the peace that surpasses all understanding.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

Let us remember the words of the prophet Isaiah: "The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them."

In the midst of chaos and turmoil, we look to the Prince of Peace to bring harmony and reconciliation to our world.

Let us Pray.

Gracious and merciful God, in this season of Advent, we long for the peace that only you can bring. May your presence fill us with a deep sense of peace, as we wait for the birth of your Son, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

May the light of Peace continue to shine brightly in our hearts as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Amen.

Sung Response: Joy to the world! The Lord will come. Let earth receive her King!

Prayer of Confession and Words of Forgiveness

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Sung Response: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Pastoral Prayer

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Richard Shephard

Peace be to you, and grace from Him who freed us from our sins; who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing "Holy, Holy" to our Lord, the Lord Almighty God, who was, and is, and is to come. Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein; rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more. They need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, for Christ will be their All.

* **Doxology**

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.**

* **Hymn 206**

I Want to Walk as the Child of the Light

HOUSTON

The Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1-10

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

Sermon

Light of Peace

Rev. Keith Thompson

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....
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord! God of pow'r and might!

8 Heav - en and earth are full of Your glo - ry Ho - san - na in the

15 high - est! Blessed is the One who comes in the name, who comes in the


22 Name of the Lord, our God! Ho - san - na in the

27 high - - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

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 ris - en;

5



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 God, now and forever.



A - - - men! A - men!_____

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray together:
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.

Fraction Anthem

Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus

Rebecca Bolding, cantor

Sung Refrain: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Cup

Communion Anthem

Kindle A Light

Michael Fleming

Haley Skipper, solo

Kindle a light to lighten the darkness, kindle a light, each nation and race! God in the poor is coming to meet us; kindle a light to shine on His face. Kindle a light to lighten the darkness; kindle a light, for all who despair. God in the poor is coming to judge us; kindle a light with fasting and prayer. Kindle a light to lighten the darkness; kindle a light for sorrow to cease. God in the poor is coming to free us; kindle a light for justice and peace. Christ is coming, coming in judgment, in truth and in grace; meet him and greet him and share his embrace.

* Dismissal & Blessing

* Choral Benediction

Rejoice! Rejoice!

VENI EMMANUEL

Postlude

Happening at Canterbury

Charge Conference | December 8 | 6:30 PM

A Charge Conference will be held at the Church Council meeting on December 8 at 6:30 PM in Wesley Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Side-by-Side Concert | December 9 | 2 PM

Enjoy a festive Christmas concert with the 80-voice Side-by-Side Community Chorus and band! Made up of singers from our Encore community, this joyful event in Canterbury Hall benefits the Encore Family Fund. Admission is free, with donations accepted at the door. Come early or stay after to shop for unique holiday gifts!

Delivery Volunteers Needed | December 10-20

Help us share Christmas cheer with members who can't get out. Between December 10-20, volunteers can pick up a small gift and instructions from the round desk, then make a short visit or door-step delivery. To volunteer, please email valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org.

Allen Levi, Author Event | December 10 | 6 PM

Canterbury is serving as the host venue for Little Professor's event featuring Allen Levi, author of the popular novel *Theo of Golden*. This in-person event has officially sold out but Canterburyans can attend via simulcast in Canterbury Hall for \$25 per ticket. Purchase online: <https://bit.ly/4pd2haF>

Legacy Luncheon & Holiday Sing-Along December 16 | 12 PM

Wear your favorite Christmas sweater and join the Canterbury Staff for the annual Christmas carol sing-along! All are invited for festive fellowship and a great lunch! (\$5) Please RSVP by December 11 by emailing valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org.

Chili Cookoff | December 17 | 5:30-7 PM

Calling all cooks! Enter your chili now by scanning the QR code. Make plans to join us for a fun evening at Canterbury's Christmas Chili Cookoff! Enjoy a hearty spread of homemade chilis and grilled cheese while celebrating the season with friends, games and great food! Proceeds will benefit the Jackson Olin High School feeding program. All ages are invited to come share in the cheer and make a difference! [\$10 adults | \$7 kids & youth | \$30 family max] Deadline to enter is December 10.



Kids Cookie Connection | December 22 | 10 AM

Mark your calendar and make sure to bring your children to participate in this sweet and fun morning activity! Join us at 10 AM in Canterbury Hall to decorate Christmas cookies to pack up and take to our homebound friends. Fun for kids of all ages!

Iron City Men's Event | January 10

Register now for a morning of inspiration and fellowship at the Men's Ministry gathering on Saturday, January 10 from 9 AM to Noon at TopGolf. This event features two dynamic speakers, Jerry Pate, U.S. Open Champion and Alabama Hall of Fame golfer, and Aaron Feld, renowned strength coach from the University of Oregon and University of Miami. Enjoy great conversation and connection with men from across the community. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today: \$50 per person or \$25 for college students. Register now: www.canterburyumc.org/mens-ministry

TODAY'S COMMUNION SERVERS

Two of our Communion Servers, Sam Sumner and Roger Wood, are representing those of our congregation who have and are serving in our armed forces. We thank them for their service.



Oh come let us adore Him

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

NEW TRADITIONS SERVICE

11 AM | Chapel

A STORYBOOK CHRISTMAS

1 PM | Canterbury Center

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

3 PM | Canterbury Center

SANCTUARY SERVICE

3 PM | Sanctuary

SANCTUARY SERVICE

5 PM | Sanctuary



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 (\$25 per poinsettia or \$50 per wreath) payable to Canterbury UMC and return it with this completed form to the church office no later than December 14.