

Sanctuary Worship January 4, 2026

Epiphany Sunday

Thank you for visiting!

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



We are so glad to have you as our guest in worship and

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.

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

Prelude on "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Matthew Montgomery

* Processional Hymn 173

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

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* 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.

Pastoral Prayer

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Anthem Awake, My Heart, and Render Jane Marshall

Awake, my heart, and render to God, thy sure defender, thy maker, thy preserver:

A song of love and fervor!

Confirm my deeds and guide me, my day with Thee beside me:

Beginning, middle, ending will all be upward tending!

My heart shall be Thy dwelling with joy and gladness swelling;

Thy word, my nurture, giv'n to bring me on toward heaven!

* Doxology OLD 100TH

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. Amen.

* **Hymn 386** Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown, vv. 1, 4

* The Lesson Genesis 28:10-17; 32: 22-32

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

Sermon Halftime Adjustments: 1 v. 1 Rev. Keith Thompson

The Great Thanksgiving

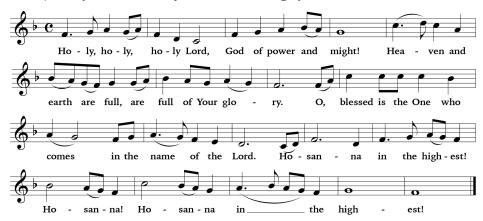
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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:



Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ ...

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here ...

... all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.



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.

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

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Cup

Music During Communion

Of the Father's Love Begotten Medieval chant melody

We are Climbing Jacob's Ladder African-American Spiritual

* Dismissal & Blessing

* Choral Benediction

* **Postlude** In Thee is Gladness Johann Sebastian Bach

Spring Reading Plan | The Gospel of Luke

For Spring 2026, we have a couple of goals and dreams for Canterbury. Our first big lofty dream is that we become people who look and act like Jesus more and more each day. We want to be people who ENCOUNTER God daily, and learn how to love our neighbors just as Jesus would do. To that end, we have created a reading plan. We believe that reading scripture daily will train us all learn to look for God. On Sunday evenings, you will receive an email that will guide you through the week. Each day we will look at a passage of scripture (10-20 verses at a time), we will offer a devotional thought, questions to share, and something to practice. Our hope is that through our reading, practice, and discussion, that we as a Church learn to ENCOUNTER God in our every day life and interactions. It is not a small



as a Church learn to ENCOUNTER God in our every day life and interactions. It is not a sma dream, but it is one that can transform our lives and the lives of our community!

This reading plan can also be found by scanning the QR codeor by visiting:

www.canterburyumc.org/2026-reading-plan

Happening at Canterbury

YAC Parent Gathering | This Afternoon

If you are the parent of a youth, join us on January 4 from 3-5 PM at Slice in Homewood for a special gathering. You'll will gain insight and learn details on what is happening at YAC in 2026! Questions? Email eleanor.kerr@canterburyumc.org.

Winter Studies | Begin January 7

Join us on January 7 when Wednesday dinner returns along with Winter studies. Our pastors will be teaching topics from their favorite seminary classes. Some of the offerings include:

- Lessons from the Minor Prophets, Hill Carmichael
- The Book of Esther, Eleanor Christiansen
- Intro to Christian Theology, Tori Hastings
- Many more!

Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults

Iron City Men's Event | January 10

Don't miss 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 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: www.canterburyumc.org/mens-ministry

Women's Dinner | January 29 | 6 PM

You're invited to an evening of food, fellowship, and inspiration at the UMW sponsored Women's Dinner on Thursday, January 29 at 6 PM. Enjoy a delicious meal and hear from Ashley McMakin, owner and founder of Ashley Mac's, as she shares her story of faith, family, and building a beloved local business. Tickets are \$25 per person. Come be encouraged and connect with women across our church community... we can't wait to see you there! Register now by scanning the QR code.

Diaper Drive with Bundles of Hope

This Christmas, we remember Mary preparing a manger for the arrival of Jesus, doing all she could to welcome new life with love, hope, and care. In that same spirit, our January 25th Serve Day kids project invites you to help other mothers in our community prepare for their little ones. Kids@Canterbury is partnering with Bundles of Hope to host a special Diaper Drive, and we'd love for you to participate! A manger outside the Kids Check-In Station serves as our collection point. We need:

- New packages of disposable diapers
- Opened, outgrown, or partial packages
- Sizes: Newborn through size 6
- Biggest need: Newborn, 5 & 6

NEXTOSTEPS

Begins February 1

This Sunday morning class is a basic introduction to our church family and a wonderful time for you to connect with others. If you are interested in making Canterbury your church home, please join us on 2/1, 2/8 and 2/15 at 9:15 AM. To register, please email becky.king@canterburyumc.org.





www.canterburyumc.org