



## **Sanctuary Service**

**May 4, 2025**



**Canterbury**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## 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. Matthew Montgomery

**Pastor** - Dr. Rick Owen

**Youth 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. 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. Nursery for other activities and church events can be provided. Please email Breana Stallings at [breana.stallings@canterburyumc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.*

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

### **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 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](mailto: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.

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## **CONTACT US**

**Church Office:** 205.871.4695

**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**

Dialogue sur les Grand Jeux

Francois Couperin

## Welcome and Announcements

- \* **Processional Hymn 400**      Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing      NETTLETON
- \* **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**

Jubilate Deo

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands! Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord, he is God; it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise.

Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name; for the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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.

- \* **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.**

**\* Gospel Procession 378**

Amazing Grace, vv. 1, 2

AMAZING GRACE

**The Gospel Lesson**

Mark 8: 22-26

*This is the Good News of Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God.*

**\* Gospel Procession 378**

Amazing Grace, vv. 3, 4

AMAZING GRACE

**Homily**

Resurrection Stories: Recovery of Sight to the Blind

Rev. Keith Thompson

**Celebrating Confirmation**

**Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith** (Confirmation Class)

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,  
Reject the evil powers of this world, And repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression  
in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

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 of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

As members of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church,  
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

**I do.**

As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries  
by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

**I will.**

The God of all grace, Who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,  
Establish you and strengthen you By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
That you may live in grace and peace.

**Baptism, Baptismal Remembrance and Confirmation**

**Reception Into Canterbury United Methodist Church**

**Commendation and Welcome**

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 persons now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

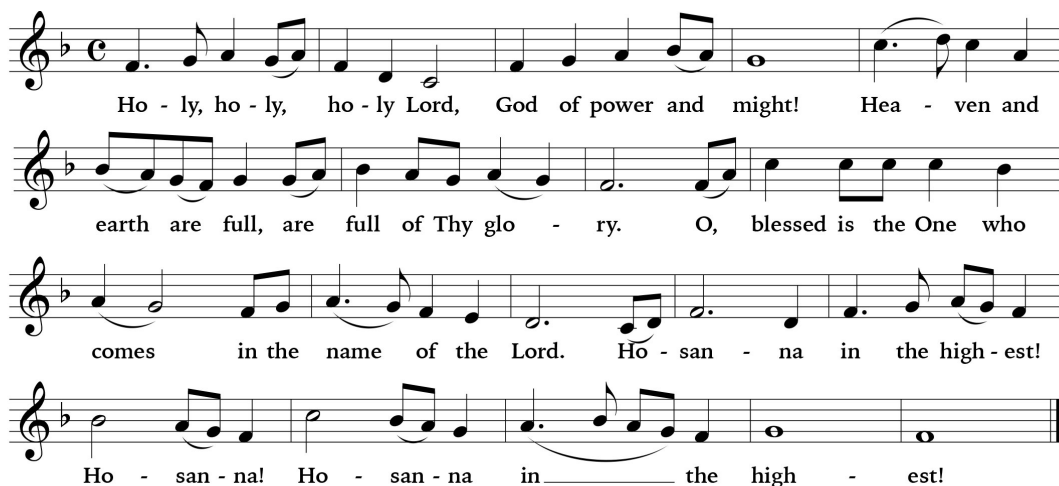
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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 power and might! Hea - ven and  
earth are full, are full of Thy glo - ry. O, blessed is the One who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in \_\_\_\_\_ the high - est!

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

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died; — Christ is ris - en; Christ \_\_\_\_\_ will come a - gain!

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

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



A - men! — 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.**

## **Breaking the Bread and Giving the Cup**

### **Prayer After Receiving**

#### **Anthem During Communion**

We Know that Christ is Raised

C.V. Stanford

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more, embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy, Alleluia!

We share by water in his saving death; reborn, we share with him an Easter life, as living  
members of our Savior Christ. Alleluia!

The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life; the spirit's fission shakes the Church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One, Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.

The universe restored and whole will sing: Alleluia!

#### **\* Dismissal & Blessing**

#### **\* Choral Benediction**

## **2025 Confirmation Class**

James Taggart Bales	Anderson Benjamin Dunning	Joseph Henry Marks III
William Hall Bales	Brooks Alexander Fava	Patrick Francis Murphy
Betty Dow Bond	Katherine Sylvia Fron	Virginia Christian Murphy
Mary Alice Elizabeth Bowen	Walter Smith Gentle	William Haynes Nader
Thomas Wesley Brinkley, Jr.	Kathryn Hunt Gillespie	Caroline Brewer Norris
Braden Timothy Brom	Jane Harris Hickam	Kelsey Marie Paisley
Benjamin Walker Buck	Ann Donelson Hill	Brooklyn Kai Seligson
Bella Lea Rose Buechler	Ann Grace Stanford Hill	Duncan Harold Sides
Annabel Sutton Canterbury	Hannah Story Hughes	Caroline Ava Stuckey
Peyton Wells Crago	Jordan Lee Kilgore	Charles Lawrence Whatley III
Vera Dae Creager	Gregory Wellington King	William Bew White V
William Crozier Davis	Fielden Crosby Long	Jennings Ann Winger

*Our Communion Servers today are the Senior High and Adult Leaders of the 2025 Confirmation Class.*

# Happening at Canterbury

**Share Your Easter Photos** We are updating Canterbury's membership database and would like to add a photo of you or of you and your family. If you took a picture here on Easter morning, or if you have another recent photo you prefer, please email it to [directory@canterburyumc.org](mailto:directory@canterburyumc.org).

**Kids Summer Camp & Events** Register today for everything we have in store for your kids this summer at Canterbury at [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children).

## YAC Summer Trips & Getaways

- June 6-8 — Sr. High Lake Trip
  - June 23-26 — Jr. High Adventure Trip
  - July 13-18 — Magic City Work Week
  - May 28 — Six Flags Getaway
  - June 11 — Activate Getaway
  - June 18 — Braves Game Getaway
- Sign up: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth/#summer](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth/#summer)

**UMW General Meeting & Lunch | May 5 | 10:30 AM** Join us tomorrow in Wesley Hall starting at 10:30 AM. Shannon Wadlington, Director of Books to Prisons, will be the guest speaker.

**Side by Side Spring Concert | May 13 | 2 PM** Don't miss "A Stroll Down Broadway!" on Tuesday, May 13 at 2 PM in Canterbury Hall. Great for all ages! No tickets are required, but donations will be accepted at the door to benefit McCoy Adult Day Care. Please come support us with your presence for this special event!

**The Calm Before the Stork | May 18 | 9:30 AM** If your family is growing through birth, adoption or fostering, we would love to share all the ways our church hopes to wrap around your family during these sacred days and years! We will discuss baptism, nursery, Sunday School, and share ideas about books and Bibles for your little one. We will hold our first bi-annual *Calm Before the Stork* on Sunday, May 18 at 9:30 AM in room 213 in the Children's Department. Please RSVP: [www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children](http://www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children)

**Birmingham Boys Choir Spring Concert | May 18 | 2:30 PM** The Birmingham Boys Choir presents its 47th annual spring concert on Sunday, May 18 at 2:30 PM in the Canterbury Sanctuary. All are invited! The concert is free and is the Choir's gift to the community.

**ENCOURAGERS Interest** This fall, Canterbury plans to start Encouragers - a new intergenerational women's program. The goal is to form many small groups of all ages within the church to meet together once a month for a year for fellowship, prayer and service. Sign up to learn more: [bit.ly/43pCwfe](http://bit.ly/43pCwfe)

**Legacy Luncheon | May 27 | 12 Noon** Join us for a very special luncheon with Dr. John Waits from Freedom Farm, homes for abused, abandoned, neglected and at-risk kids. Learn how this amazing ministry is changing the lives of children and families by giving them the "freedom to soar" and to succeed in a loving home where God and faith are the center. Lunch is \$5. Please RSVP by May 22 to Valerie at [valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org](mailto:valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org).