

Sanctuary Worship

November 8, 2026

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
Children's Pastor - Rev. Eleanor Christiansen
Bishop in Residence - Dr. Mike Watson
Choirmaster and Organist - Dr. Lester Seigel
Crucifer - Charlie Bradenburg
Acolyte - Evelyn Bradenburg

REAL GRACE LOVE LIFE

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 Psalm 19 Benedetto Marcello
James H. Cook, organist and conductor

Introit Come, and Let Us Sweetly Join CANTERBURY

Come, and let us sweetly join, Christ to praise in hymns divine; give we all with one accord glory to our common Lord. Hands and hearts and voices raise, sing as in the ancient days; antedate the joys above, celebrate the feast of love.

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Matthew Montgomery

*** Processional Hymn 384** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling BEECHER

*** 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.**

Children's Moment Rev. Eleanor Christansen

Baptism Helen Wells Elliott

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 Helen Wells in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example she may be guided to accept God's grace for herself, to profess her 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 this family now before you in your care?

With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Helen Wells, 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 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 a member of the family of Christ.

Choral Response Child of Blessing, Child of Promise STUTTGART

Child of blessing, Child of promise baptized with the Spirit's sign;
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Anthem God So Loved the World Bob Chilcott
Rebecca Bolding, Solo

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

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 Come Down, O Love Divine DOWN AMPNEY, arr. Dietterich

Come down, O Love divine; seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it with thy holy flame bestowing. O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, till Love create a place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling. (A Laude of Banco da Siena, 15th c., trans. Littledale, 1867)

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 560** Help Us Accept Each Other, vv. 1,4 AURELIA

The Lesson James 1: 19-20

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

Sermon Even When: Everyone is Picking Sides Rev. Keith Thompson

*** Closing Hymn 437** This Is My Song FINLANDIA

*** Dismissal & Blessing**

*** Recessional Prayer** Ted Clark, cantor

Postlude

Sanctuary Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are placed in loving memory of Davis Kelly by Jane & Gary Youngblood.

PRESENTED FOR HOLY BAPTISM

HELEN WELLS ELLIOTT
May 3, 2026
Parents: Caroline & David Elliott
Sibling: David Elliott
Grandparents: Martha & David Elliott, Caroline & Tim Hinds
Great-Grandparents: Weesa Matthews, Betty Margaret Elliott

Happening at Canterbury

Kids CanterburyCHELLA
November 11 | 10 AM
We are excited to host CanterburyCHELLA this week on Veteran's Day! It will be a morning of fun and music with *Huck & Lilly* giving your family a fun opportunity to come dance and sing together. Join us in Canterbury Hall and invite a friend!

Wednesday Night Schedule

TAKE NOTE!

- November 11 - No Dinner or Studies, Veterans' Day
- November 18 - Dinner & Session 3 Studies
- November 25 - No Dinner or Studies, Thanksgiving
- December 2 - Dinner & Session 3 Studies
- December 9 - Christmas Chili Cookoff

Calm Before the Stork
November 15 | 9:30 AM
Is your family growing through birth, adoption, or fostering? We'd love to walk alongside you! Join us next Sunday, November 15 to learn how we can support your family, explore baptism, nursery and Sunday School for your baby.
Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children

Coat Drive
Now through November 23
Coats, sweatshirts, fleeces of all sizes are needed for our Christmas Village coat drive! Our goal is to collect 500 coats, so check your closets! You may drop off anytime on the coat collection racks found in the church. (University branded sweatshirts are fine but please no K-12 schools)

Christmas Village Toy Collection
The annual toy drive is in full swing! Shop local at Snoozy's Kids (they deliver to Canterbury!) or purchase gifts from our Amazon Wish List (scan the QR code) Please deliver gifts by November 22. Thank you for helping us provide gifts for more than 400 local children!

You may also support Christmas Village by:
- Baking a dozen treats over the Thanksgiving holiday with your kids, grandkids, spouse, etc. and deliver to Canterbury on November 30. Our goal is 200 dozen baked treats!
- Volunteer to work at the event on Dec. 2 & 3! Sign up by scanning this QR code.

Encouragers Serve Night: Girls' Night Out
December 1 | 5:30 PM
All ladies are invited to join the Encouragers women's ministry for a special Christmas Serve Night benefiting girls in foster care at Grace House! We'll share a festive evening of dinner, cookie decorating, and Christmas cheer. Help make the night memorable by volunteering or donating needed items. Register to attend and pay the $15 dinner fee by scanning the QR code. Come share the joy and blessings of the season!

New Canterbury App! Have you downloaded it yet?
Stay connected! From worship livestreams and giving, to the church directory, calendar and registering for events... it's all in one place! Just search Canterbury UMC Birmingham in the Apple App Store or Google Play (look for our red logo box) to download for free.

THE LIFE WE GIVE

This fall, our giving campaign, *The Life We Give* reminded us that a life transformed by God's grace is a life offered in love and service to others. We see that generosity every day through Canterbury's worship, ministries, congregational care, and outreach... all made possible by your faithful support.

To those who have made your 2027 financial commitment, thank you! If you have not yet pledged, we encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can support Canterbury's mission and ministries in the coming year.

Thank you for the many ways you share God's love through Canterbury!

WAYS TO GIVE

- Mail your pledge card to the Finance Office
- Call the Finance Office at 205.874.1553
- Drop your pledge card in the offering plate
- Pledge online at www.canterburyumc.org/giving
- Pledge through the new Canterbury APP
- Pledge by scanning the QR code