

Sanctuary Worship

November 19, 2023

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

The Canterbury United Methodist Church Choir
The Choirs of Birmingham-Southern College
present

The 86th Service
of Lessons and Carols



Todie

by Ralph
Vaughan-Williams

with orchestra
Lester Seigel, conductor

with
Susan Williams, soprano
James Seay, tenor
Daniel Seigel, baritone

Sunday, December 3, 7:00 p.m.

Canterbury United Methodist Church
350 Overbrook Road



Aligail Brantley

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 (\$20 per poinsettia or \$50 per wreath) payable to Canterbury UMC and return it with a copy of this form to the church office or to Paul McCracken, no later than Friday, December 8.



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



Senior Pastor - Rev. Keith Thompson
Pastor - Rev. Hill Carmichael
Pastor - Rev. Tori Hastings
Pastor - Dr. Bill Morgan
Pastor - Rev. Sheryl Thornton
Pastor - Rev. Sam Williamson
Pastor - Rev. Matthew Montgomery
Children's Pastor - Rev. Ruth Grissom
Youth Pastor - Rev. Seth Moon
High School 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. 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 resources available as you enter the worship space including a Worship Activity bag. 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.

Children's Ministry at Canterbury begins at birth. Nursery is provided for infants and preschoolers for all regularly scheduled worship services. Nursery for other activities and church events can be provided. Please feel free to contact Selena Pitsch at selena.pitsch@canterburyumc.org with any questions about nursery. 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 contact 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*

Watch Online We understand the challenges you face and we strive to be a church that is accessible to you whenever and however you need us. Our Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship services are available on our website.

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.

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.

CONTACT US

Church Office: 205.871.4695

To Join: matthew.montgomery@canterburyumc.org
205.868.6590x2302

Pastoral Care Response Line: 205.999.4887

Order of Worship

No Words

Today is the 25th Sunday after Pentecost. The liturgical color is green. We can worship when we are alone, but in our corporate (or congregational) worship we gather as the body of Christ. Through the early church custom of "Passing the Peace," we greet one another and celebrate our time of worship together. Today we celebrate the youth and youth leaders who are away on the Journey Retreat giving our youth a new opportunity to grow in their faith.

Voluntary

Air for Organ

Paul Creston

Welcome and Announcements

* Processional Hymn 529

How Firm A Foundation

FOUNDATION

* 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

Davis Kinchler

Anthem

Go Not Far From Me, O God

L. Zingarelli

Go not far from me, O God; cast me not away in the time of age.

Forsake me not when my strength faileth me.

O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise, that I may sing of Thy glory all the day long.

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

O Lord, How Can We Know Thee?

Ron Nelson

O Lord, how can we know Thee? Where can we find Thee?

Thou art as close to us as breathing, and yet art farther than the farthestmost star.

Thou art as mysterious as the vast solitudes of the night, and yet art as familiar to us as the light of the sun.

When justice burns like a flaming fire, when love evokes willing sacrifice, do we not bow down to Thee?

Thou livest within our hearts, as Thou dost pervade the world, and we, through Thy presence, behold.

* Doxology

Please stand when you see the choir rise.

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 142

If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee, vv. 1 & 3

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

Psalter Lesson

Psalm 22

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

Sermon

Rev. Keith Thompson

* Hymn 77

How Great Thou Art, vv. 1 & 4

HOW GREAT THOU ART

* Dismissal and Blessing

Recessional Prayer

Ted Clark, cantor

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that the words we have said and sung this day may be so grafted and guarded in our hearts, that our lives may bring forth good fruits, and our lips shall show forth Thy praise, to the honor and glory of Thy holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Postlude

Flowers on Sanctuary Altar

The flowers on the Sanctuary altar are in honor of Virginia Lee Rives & John Reid Lynch who were united in holy matrimony on November 18, 2023.

Thanksgiving for the lives of

Greer Megginson (Missy Cunningham’s father).....November 10, 2023
Larry Russo.....November 11, 2023

Wednesday Night Advent Studies | Begin November 29

Advent is just around the corner, and we have lined up two great studies that will begin Wednesday, November 29. Natalie Moon will lead *She Reads Truth: Advent Study*. Matthew Montgomery will lead *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes*. For details and to register, visit: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults

Farewell Reception Honoring Paul McCracken | December 3 | 9:15-10:15 AM

Dr. Paul McCracken, Director of Sanctuary Worship, is retiring from Canterbury at the end of December. You are invited to attend a farewell reception on Sunday, December 3 in the Parlor from 9:15-10:15 AM. Please drop by and wish Paul well!

Christmas Choir Musical | December 3 | 7 PM

The Birmingham-Southern Concert Choir, the Birmingham-Southern Alumni Choir and the Canterbury Chancel Choir will present Ralph Vaughan Williams Christmas musical *Hodie*. This cantata by Williams was composed between 1953-1954 and is a beautiful celebration of the season. All are invited to attend this special presentation in Canterbury’s Sanctuary.

UMW General Meeting & Christmas Coffee | December 4 | 10:30 AM

You are invited to join us in Wesley Hall as we welcome Pastor Keith Thompson as our guest. He will be sharing about Canterbury's trip to Israel this past September. At this meeting, we will be collecting baked goods and clementines for the Birmingham Work Release Christmas Brunch that Canterbury Outreach is planning. Also, plan to visit Community On The Rise's table after the meeting. They will have unique Christmas gift items for sale from 11:30 AM-1 PM by the 1st floor elevator. You do not have to be a UMW member to attend, join us!

Side by Side Community Chorus | December 5 | 2 PM

Side by Side Community Chorus will present “Melodies of the Season” on Tuesday, December 5 at 2 PM in Canterbury Hall. The 80-voice chorus and band will bring you the most heartwarming tunes and a few song stories, too! Take a break from the hustle and bustle and leave with a holiday melody in your heart. No tickets are required. Donations will be accepted at the door for Encore Community Respite’s family care fund. With these funds, we can provide support for care partners and their loved ones for needs beyond the regular Encore program and support groups.

Pictures With Santa | December 6 | 4:30-6:30 PM

It’s the most wonderful time of the year! Don’t miss Canterbury’s Annual Pictures with Santa event hosted by Kids@Canterbury. Photos will be taken on Wednesday, December 6. Reservations are required and picture groups will start at 4:30 PM in the Covenant Classroom. Dinner will begin at 5 PM, so plan to make an evening of it! Sign up for your spot at www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children.



GIFTS DUE IN TWO WEEKS! Canterbury is hosting the annual “pop-up” store for parents in the Avondale area to shop for new Christmas toys for their children at affordable prices at Avondale Samaritan Place. This year, we are supporting 913 children! Gifts need to be purchased and delivered to either Avondale UMC or Canterbury UMC by November 27. You are encouraged to shop local or scan the QR code for the easy and convenient Amazon Wish List. Questions? Email jennifer.dunn@canterburyumc.org.



**Happy-ish
Holidays** 

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28
12-1:30 PM | Wesley Hall

Do you have a friend or family member who is in a tough season of life this year? This is a great opportunity to invite them to join you for a special luncheon on November 28. Rev. Malcolm Marler, Wellness Advocate and Spiritual Advisor at UAB Medicine, will be our guest and he will talk about self-care, grace for ourselves and each other, and how we can still engage hope and joy during the holiday season. Lunch is \$10 and registration is required. Register at: canterburyumc.org/happyish-holidays



FESTIVAL OF TREES | December 13

Festival of Trees will be held on Wednesday, December 13 from 5-7 PM. We will celebrate and highlight many wonderful groups who are connected to Canterbury including age level ministries, Sunday School classes, non-profits, etc. The evening will also include a beautiful live nativity complete with animals and Baby Jesus - as well as a craft room for the kids to decorate their own miniature tree to take home. Bring your friends and family!