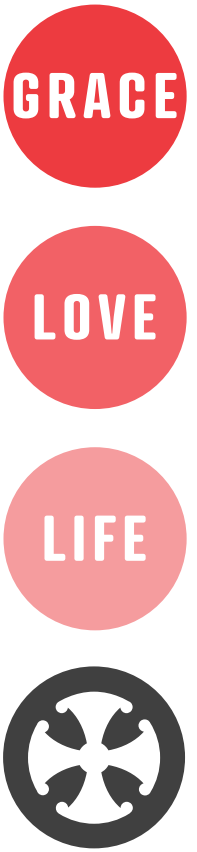
# REAL




## Sanctuary Worship

**November 22, 2026**

Christ the King Sunday

**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

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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.

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## 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** Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying Johann Sebastian Bach

**Introit** Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying Philip Nicolai

Wake, awake, for night is flying; the watchers on the heights are crying: Awake, Jerusalem, at last! Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry rejoices; come forth, you maidens, night is past; the Bridegroom comes, awake; your lamps with gladness take; Alleluia! And for his marriage feast prepare, for you must go and meet him there.

**Welcome and Announcements** Dr. Rick Owen

*** Processional Hymn 718** Lo, He Comes, With Clouds Descending, vv. 1, 2, 4 HELMSLEY

*** 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** Maddie Moravek

**Anthem** E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come Paul Manz

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!

**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** Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates Richard Shephard

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits! The King of Kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here. O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ as ruler is confessed! O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes! Come then, O Savior, and abide; our hearts to thee be open wide; may all thy inward presence feel, to all thy grace and love reveal. (German hymn by Georg Weissel, 17th c.)

**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 715** Rejoice, the Lord is King DARWALL'S 148TH

**The Lesson** Ephesians 1: 15-23

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

**Sermon** Christ the King Rev. Hill Carmichael

*** Closing Hymn 694** Come, Ye Thankful People, Come ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

*** Dismissal & Blessing**

*** Recessional Prayer** Ted Clark, cantor

**Postlude**

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**Congratulations**

To Madeline & Fischer Priestley, proud parents of Beau Wilson Priestley, born on October 6, 2026.

## MUSIC NOTE

This Sunday before Advent ends the Liturgical Year and is known as Christ the King, or the Reign of Christ Sunday. The parable of the wise and foolish maidens is the traditional Gospel lesson for the day. The choir's introit, "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying" is one of the great Protestant German hymns, nicknamed "The King of Chorales" because of its association with this day. Our opening hymn is one of Charles Wesley's on the same theme, and our closing hymn, known in the US as a hymn associated with Thanksgiving Day, references Christ the King in the final verse, from Rev. 22, indirectly pointing us to the beginning of Advent next week.

# Happening at Canterbury

**Christmas Village Gifts Due TODAY**

• The annual toy drive is coming to a close. If you have gifts to deliver, please bring them in by Monday morning. Thank you for making Christmas special for over 400 local children!

• You may also support Christmas Village by baking a dozen treats over the Thanksgiving and delivering to Canterbury on November 30.

**Wednesday Night Schedule**

• November 25 - No Dinner or Studies, Thanksgiving
• December 2 - Dinner & Session 3 Studies
• December 9 - Christmas Chili Cookoff

**Christmas Chili Cookoff & Teams**
**December 9 | 5:30-7 PM**

Canterbury's Christmas Chili Cookoff Returns! Join us for a fun and festive evening enjoying a hearty spread of homemade chilis while celebrating the season with friends, games, and great food! Gather a team and enter your best chili to compete for prizes! Entry: $20 Deadline: Dec. 4
Scan the QR code to register or go to www.canterburyumc.org/worship/advent

**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 of the holiday season!

**Birmingham-Southern Alumni Choir Concert**
**December 4 | 7 PM**

All are invited to attend this special music event in Canterbury's Sanctuary. It is the choir's 90th year to perform Lessons & Carols.

**Baby's First Milestone**
**December 6 | 9:15 AM**

We are excited to see you and your baby at your first milestone for them on December 6. We will be talking about what daily faith practices you'd like to establish in your home and will make a special handprint ornament to remember this sacred time you are experiencing with your little one. We will have space devoted to letting our littles roam about and play while we talk! Please RSVP so that we will be prepared with materials for your family.
Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children

**Side-by-Side Chorus at Birmingham Zoo**
**December 6 | 5:30 PM**

The Side-by-Side Community Chorus is made up of folks from our Encore program who love to sing and be with friends! It will make a special appearance singing at Glow Wild, the holiday light festivity at the Birmingham Zoo. Come out on Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 PM to enjoy the evening of lights and support this very special choir.

**Side-by-Side Chorus Christmas Concert**
**December 8 | 2 PM**

What better way to enjoy the holiday season than with a fun and festive Christmas concert from an 80-voice chorus and band! The Side-by-Side Community Chorus is made up of folks from our Encore community who love to sing and be with friends! This year's concert will benefit the Encore Family Fund. Free admission, donations will be accepted at the door! Also! Make plans to shop for unique holiday gifts before and after the event.

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The first Sunday of Advent is November 29 and we have a great season ahead. For a full list of happenings including Christmas Eve services, please visit:
**www.canterburyumc.org/worship/advent**

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

The holiday season is often a time of joy and celebration, but we also recognize that for many, this time of year can be especially difficult. Whether you are grieving the loss of a loved one, facing personal challenges, navigating a difficult transition, or simply experiencing a season of uncertainty, please know that you do not have to walk through it alone.

Canterbury's Stephen Ministers are here to offer a listening ear, a caring heart, and a compassionate presence. These trained congregation members provide confidential, one-on-one Christian care to those experiencing grief, hardship, or other challenges in life. If you or someone you know could benefit from the care and support of a Stephen Minister during this holiday season, please contact Rev. Hill Carmichael at hill.carmichael@canterburyumc.org. We are here for you.

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## POINSETTIA AND WREATH ORDERS

Help beauitfy our worship spaces on Christmas Eve by placing a poinsettia or wreath in memory or in honor of a special friend or loved one. You may place your order online by scanning the QR code or the order form below. If you have questions, please email Brittany Smith at brittany.smith@canterburyumc.org. *The deadline to order is December 14!*



### 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.




**www.canterburyumc.org**