



THE LIFE WE GIVE



Sanctuary Worship
October 18, 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

Acolytes - Evelyn Bradenburg



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

Allegretto

William Russell

Introit

Now We Thank All Our God

NUN DANKET

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things have done,
in whom this world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with
countless gifts of love, and still is ours today!

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Matthew Montgomery

*** Processional Hymn 89**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ODE TO JOY

*** 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.

The Lesson

2 Corinthians 8: 1-9

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

Children's Moment

Rev. Eleanor Christiansen

Sermon

The Life We Give: A Life Offered

Rev. Keith Thompson

Anthem

How Can I Keep From Singing?
Daniel Seigel, solo

Lowry, arr. Stroope

My life goes on in endless song, above earth's lamentation; I hear the real, though far-off
song that hails a new creation. (Refrain): No storm can shake my inmost calm, while
to that Rock I'm clinging. It sounds an echo in my soul; how can I keep from singing?
Although the storms around me blow, I know the truth will guide me; although the darkness
'round me grow, my song's the light beside me. (Refrain) While love is Lord of heaven and
earth, how can I keep from singing?

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.

Offering Our Gifts and 2027 Commitments

With grateful hearts, we place our tithes, offerings, and 2027 financial commitments in the offering plate.

Anthem

What Shall I Render to my God?

Austin Lovelace

What shall I render to my God for all His mercy's store? I'll take the gifts we hath bestowed and humbly ask for more. The sacred cup of saving grace I will with thanks receive, and all his promises embrace and to his glory live. My vows I will to his great name before his people pay, and all I have, and all I am, upon his altar lay. Thy lawful servant, Lord, I owe to thee whate'er is mine. Born in thy family below, and by redemption, thine. Thy hands created me, thy hands from sin have set me free; the mercy that hath loosed my bands hath bound me fast to thee. Praise him, ye saints, the God of love who hath thy sins forgiv'n, 'til gathered to the church above, we sing the songs of heaven. (Charles Wesley)

* 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.**

*** Closing Hymn 140**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

* Dismissal & Blessing

* Recessional Prayer

Ted Clark, cantor

Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers

The Flowers on the Sanctuary Altar are placed in memory of Linda Broach on her birthday given by friends of Linda Broach.

Happening at Canterbury

Encore Volunteer Training October 21 | 2:30 PM

Come learn how to be a friend to someone living with dementia and discover what makes Encore such a special place. You'll learn simple ways to connect, communicate, and bring joy to someone's day and we have a feeling you'll discover that the joy comes right back to you. Come be part of the Encore family, where there's plenty of laughter, love, music, friendship, and fun. No experience needed...just a willing heart. The training will be held in the Encore room at 2:30 PM on 10/21. Register, email: encorepatti@gmail.com

RISE Connect Retreat | October 23-24

4th-6th grades! Join us for a 24-hour overnight retreat at Camp Sumatanga. We'll worship, hike, play, and connect with one another and God. Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children

Favorites -- An Organ Recital by Lester Seigel November 1 | 2:30 PM

Join us for a special afternoon in the Sanctuary as our very own Lester Seigel presents *Favorites -- An Organ Recital*, featuring some of the most popular works by J.S. Bach, Franz Liszt, Johannes Brahms, and Charles-Marie Widor.

Daily Bible Reading Plan | Genesis

This fall, we are journeying through the Book of Genesis together. Each Sunday evening, you will receive an email outlining the readings for the week. You can also follow along by visiting: www.canterburyumc.org/2026-reading-plan

1st Grade Faith Milestone November 1 | 9:15 AM

We are so excited to see you and your 1st grader at their Faith Milestone. We will be learning about baptism and how it helps us understand how much God loves us. Please RSVP so that we will be prepared with materials for your family. Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children

Calm Before the Storm November 15 | 9:30 AM

If your family is growing through birth, adoption or fostering, we would love to spend time with you to talk about all the ways our church hopes to wrap around your family during these sacred days and years! We will discuss baptism and walk through what you need to consider when scheduling a baptism, talk about the nursery and Sunday School program, and share a few ideas about great books and Bibles for your little one. Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/children

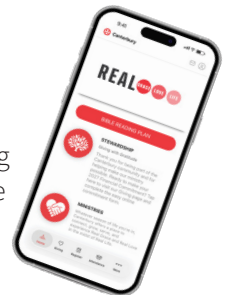
YAC Journey Retreat | November 20-22

** FINAL DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS OCTOBER 20.*

Journey will be held November 20-22 at Shocco Springs in Talladega. This retreat is for all 7th-12th graders and is an awesome weekend filled with meaningful talks, amazing worship, fun games, and more! All students are encouraged to join us for this incredible retreat! Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth

New Canterbury App... Stay connected to all that is happening!

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 it for free.





This month has reminded us that generosity is far more than what we give financially... it's about the life we help make possible through God's work in our church, our community, and beyond. We invite you to prayerfully consider what your time, talents, and financial commitment will be for Canterbury's ministries in 2027. We also invite you to consider a 5% increase in your pledge, helping Canterbury continue to grow the Kingdom of God, right here, right now.

Thank you for supporting your church and its mission through your faith and generosity. Because of your commitment and love, we can continue to give life to the ministries that make Canterbury a place of Real Grace. Real Love. Real Life.

WAYS TO GIVE

We've made it easy! There are several ways to submit your 2027 Financial Commitment.

- Turn in your pledge card today in worship
- Mail your pledge card to the Finance Office
- Call the Finance Office at 205.874.1553
- Pledge online at www.canterburyumc.org/giving
- Pledge through the new Canterbury App
- Pledge by scanning the QR code



Consider the 5% challenge!

- If your pledge is \$100
consider making a pledge of \$105.
- If your pledge is \$1,000
consider making a pledge of \$1,050.
- If your pledge is \$5,000
consider making a pledge of \$5,250.
- If your pledge is \$10,000
consider making a pledge of \$10,500.
- If your pledge is \$20,000
consider making a pledge of \$21,000.

**Consider increasing your pledge by 5%.
It could make a big difference!**



www.canterburyumc.org