

COME

CONNECT

COMMIT



Sanctuary Worship

October 26, 2025

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

Bishop in Residence - Dr. Mike Watson

Choirmaster and Organist - Dr. Lester Seigel

Crucifer - Leigh Anne Precise | **Acolyte** - Charlie Brandenburg



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

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Gann Waters - Wright

* Processional Hymn 110

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

* 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

Eleanor Christiansen

Baptism

Nelson Straub Bean, III

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 Nelson Straub in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example he may be guided to accept God's grace for himself to profess his 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 Nelson Straub, 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 brother 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.

Call to Prayer

Whoever Would Be Great Among You

Ron Nelson

Sam Dillard, guitar

Whoever would be great among you, must become your servant,
and whoever would be first among you, must be a slave of all.

For the Son of man came not to be served, but to serve,
and to give His life as a ransom for many.

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
Oh 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. (Union Prayer Book, 1940)

*** 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 Processional 121** There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy, vv. 1, 2 WELLESLEY

*** Gospel Lesson** Luke 18: 9-14
The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

*** Gospel Processional 121** There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy, vv. 3, 4 WELLESLEY

Sermon Rev. Keith Thompson

*** Closing Hymn 77** How Great Thou Art HOW GREAT THOU ART

*** Dismissal & Blessing**

*** Recessional Prayer** Ted Clark, cantor

Thanksgiving for the life of
Melba Gallop (Becky King’s mother).....October 16, 2025

PRESENTED FOR HOLY BAPTISM
NELSON STRAUB BEAN, III
May 7, 2025

Parents: Ali & Nelson Bean, Jr.
Grandparents: Kimberly & Nelson Bean, Mary & Sam Adams

Happening at Canterbury

NEW! "Canterbury Cast" Podcast



Get ready to tune in to Canterbury Cast... our debut episode is out now! Each episode will bring real stories, faith reflections, and conversations from our Canterbury community. Whether you're on your morning drive or taking a quiet walk, join us as we share how God is moving in and through the people of Canterbury. Subscribe wherever you get your podcasts!

Santa Fe Soup Needed!

Help us serve the Church of the Reconciler on Thursdays each week. Make a double/triple batch and help fill the freezer at Canterbury. Please freeze flat and deliver to the church.

Legacy Luncheon | October 28 | 12 Noon

Join us as we welcome Canterbury's very own Perryn Carroll. She is the Executive Director of The Jimmie Hale Mission - and was named the 2025 Remarkable Woman of the Year for Central Alabama! Come for great food and fellowship and to hear her compelling story! Lunch (\$5). RSVP: valerie.boyd@canterburyumc.org

Halloween Fun Night | October 29 | 5-7 PM

Hey kids! Wednesday, October 29 will be spook-tacular! Wear your costumes to church for dinner and a night full of Halloween fun!

Kenya 2026 Interest Meeting | November 16

Join us on Sunday, November 16 at 11:45 AM in Wesley Hall to hear about the Canterbury mission trip to Kenya in summer 2026. We will discuss the mission project, costs, dates and logistics. If you are unable to attend but still interested in learning more, please email Hill Carmichael or Rachel Estes for meeting notes.

YAC Journey Retreat | November 21-23

Journey is November 21-23 at Shocco Springs in Talladega. This is a fall retreat for all 7th-12th graders, and friends are always welcome! The deadline to register is November 12.

Register: www.canterburyumc.org/grow/youth

A NOTE FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

If you haven't had the chance to make your 2026 pledge yet, it's not too late. Every gift, large or small, makes a difference and helps us move forward together as one church, connected and committed to God's work in our community and beyond. When you are ready to make your 2026 financial commitment, please visit: www.canterburyumc.org/giving

Wednesday Nights

Fall Bible Studies | Session 3

Begin
**NOV.
5th**

Our 3rd fall session of Wednesday Night studies will kickoff on November 5 and will run through December 3. This great lineup is available for you to sign up now! For full details and to register:

www.canterburyumc.org/grow/adults

- **Christian Community in a World Torn Apart: Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

Led by Tori Hastings

- **Feeling the Blues: More than Music it is Community**

Led by Rick Owen

- **The Wesley Way: John Wesley's Approach to Spiritual Growth**

Led by Keith Thompson

- **Faith Works: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat"**

Led by Caroline Bundy & Rachel Estes

- **The Gifts of Imperfection, by Brene Brown**

Led by Jordain Boland & Natalie Moon

- **Woven: Teaching Your Kids Faith**

Led by Eleanor Christiansen

- **Letters of Paul** (*ongoing*)

Led by Lisa Donnell & Team



Scan the QR code
to register now!

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Participating in a recent Wednesday night Bible study with one of Canterbury's pastors has deepened my faith - and given me a valuable community that truly walks alongside me in my spiritual journey. Wednesday nights are the best part of my week!