

Using their Gifts to Serve in December:

Deacon of the Month of December:	Charlie Gallop
December Radio Ministry Sponsor	Bruce and Liz Brown
Opening and Closing the Church:	Sarah Davis
Ushers for December:	Don Johnson, Wayne Brown, Bruce Brown, and Bob Turner
Caregivers for November 14-December 27:	Lynette Bunch

Murfreesboro Baptist Church will once again participate in the Christmas Fuel Fundraiser. With the help of Jernigan Oil Company, Inc. and Debbie Jones, fuel oil is purchased for families that are unable to pay at Christmas. Jernigan Oil Company, Inc. identifies those in most need and will reduce the oil prices substantially for this project. Last year approximately \$3,000 was raised for this cause. Please make your check payable to: Murfreesboro Baptist Church and indicate "FUEL FUND" on your check and bring or mail it to 200 West Main Street, Murfreesboro, NC 27855. Donations need to arrive at the church by December 16, 2025, so that funds may be taken to Jernigan Oil before Christmas. A warm home is a wonderful gift for Christmas.

Our Christmas Cantata will be held today at 3:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary, and will include the Middle Swamp Baptist Choir. The name of the cantata is Peace Has Come by Dennis and Nan Allen. Please join us in this beautiful celebration of the Christ child. Light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. Please bring a food item for the reception after the service.

The Annual Christmas Angel Tree deadline for gifts to be returned is tomorrow, December 15. If you have taken an "Angel" tag off the tree please remember to wrap all gifts, place in large bag and attach the Angel tag to the bag. Deadline for all gifts to be returned is Monday, December 15.

White Christmas box donations are now being accepted. Donations of foods and/or funds enable us to continue this important ministry. Food items needed are one-pound blocks of cheese, canned collards, cranberry sauce, candied yams, rice, fruit, gravy, brownie mix, and frosting. You may also contribute by adopting a box for \$25.00. Please mark your donations "White Christmas Box". The deadline for items is Dec 18. They will be packed and delivered on Dec 19.

In Memory of Hal Ragland Thomas, Sr: Jane Newsome, Johnny and Catherine Jenkins, Suzanne Brown, Mike and Susan Alston

In Memory of Thomas (T.W.) Wells Hill, Jr.: Mike and Susan Alston

In Memory of Ann Baird Caulkins: Mike and Susan Alston

In Memory of Thomas Herbert Caulkins: Mike and Susan Alston

Please remember these friends who cannot worship with us regularly:

Phil Royce	Cheryl Whitley	Gertrude Revelle
Genevieve Broadhead	Chris Broadhead	Ed and Verlie Rainey

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins, Pastor
Mrs. Paula Pressnell, Organist & Director of Music Ministry
Ms. Kayleigh Lance, Director of Youth Ministry

200 West Main Street	Contact us at:	Murfreesboro, NC 27855
Email: office@murfbc.org	252-398-3613	Website:

Murfreesboro Baptist Church

The Lord's Day, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent



We Gather to Worship		
Prelude	In Dulci Jubilo	Bach/Paxton
*Gathering Hymn No. 82	Light the Light, the Fire of Life (verse 3)	IL EST NE
	Light the light, the fire of life, let the candle reveal His glory. Jesus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come again. Light the candle of His joy, light the light of shepherd's coming, light the candle of His joy, light the light that shows the way. Light the light, the fire of life, let the candle reveal His glory. Jesus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come again.	
Words of Welcome		
	The Lord be with you! And also with you!	
Ministry Opportunities		Mark Gaskins
Call to Worship	Luke 1:50-51, 54-55a (NRSV)	
	His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors	
Invocation		Mark Gaskins
We Hear God's Word		
*Hymn of Praise No. 103	O Come, All Ye Faithful	ADESTE FIDELES
Children’s Sermon: Lighting of the Advent Wreath		Sarah Davis
Epistle Lesson	James 5:7-11	Lori Harders
	The Word of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God!	
Gospel Lesson	Matthew 11:2-11	Kayleigh Lance
	The Word of the Lord. Praise His Holy Name!	
*Gloria Patri No. 705	Glory Be to the Father	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.	

*Please stand as you are able.

The Church at Prayer		
The Call to Prayer		
The Prayers of the People		
The Lord’s Prayer (<i>trespasses</i>)		
*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 125	Angels We Have Heard on High	GLORIA
Thanksgiving with Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory Prayer		Kayleigh Lance
Offertory	Silent Night! Holy Night!	Gruber/Larson
*Doxology 706	Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow	OLD 100 TH
	Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him, above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.	
Anthem	Peace Has Come	Fielding/ Allen
Scripture and Sermon	Isaiah 35:1-10	Mark Gaskins
	When God Comes	

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn of Response No. 107	O Little Town of Bethlehem	ST. LOUIS
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment		Mark Gaskins

We Go Forth with God's Blessing

*Commission and Benediction		Mark Gaskins
**Postlude	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	Mendelssohn/Smith

**Please remain seated until the conclusion of the music.

To our guests this morning . . .

In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to worship at Murfreesboro Baptist Church! Worshiping God together is one of the most important things we do as a church. We gather to hear and tell the good news of what God has done, is doing, and will do in Jesus Christ his Son, and respond to him in faith and obedience as he sends us out with his blessing to love and serve him in the world. We encourage active participation through responsive readings, prayers, the offering, and singing hymns.

As members of the larger body of Christ, we affirm our kinship with our fellow believers in other traditions and around the world by following the seasons of the Christian year. Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The color for the season is purple, symbolizing the royalty of the coming King and our penitence as we prepare to greet him.