

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 30-December 13:	Patty Joyner

Thank you to the volunteers who have beautifully decorated the sanctuary and church grounds for the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

There will be no Big Wednesday in December due to a crowded holiday calendar.

Our Christmas Cantata will be held on December 14, 2025 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 is located in the foyer near the elevator. If you would like to be "A Christmas Angel" to a local child this Christmas, please take an Angel tag off the tree and sign the sign-in sheet on the lectern by the number you have chosen. 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.

Please help us ensure that families in our area have a wonderful Christmas dinner. 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 green beans, corn, peas, collards, cranberry sauce, candied yams, rice, fruit, gravy, stuffing mix, brownie mix, cake mix, and frosting. You may also contribute by adopting a box for \$25.00. Please mark your donations "White Christmas Box". We will be providing for at least 12 families. The deadline for items is Dec 18. They will be packed and delivered on Dec 19.

In Memory of Hal Ragland Thomas, Sr: Don and Lynn Johnson, and Linda B. Weaver

In Memory of Ann Baird Caulkins: David and Carole Farnham

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
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<i>We Gather to Worship</i>		
Prelude	<i>Of the Father's Love Begotten</i>	arr. Lani Smith
*Gathering Hymn No. 87	<i>Arise, Your Light Is Come</i> (verses 1 & 4)	FESTAL SONG
Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today. Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.		
Words of Welcome		
The Lord be with you! And also with you!		
Ministry Opportunities		Mark Gaskins
Call to Worship		Psalm 122:1-4 (NRSV)
I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD!” Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.		
<i>We Hear God’s Word</i>		
*Hymn of Praise No. 79	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	VENI EMMANUEL
Children’s Sermon: Lighting of the Advent Wreath		Sarah Davis
Epistle Lesson	Romans 13:11-14	Lynette Bunch
The Word of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God!		
Gospel Lesson	Matthew 24:36-44	Linda Hassell
The Word of the Lord. Praise His Holy Name!		
*Gloria Patri No. 705	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	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. 95	Prepare the Royal Highway	BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN
Thanksgiving with Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory Prayer		Mark Gaskins
Offertory	Emmanuel Comes	arr. Mark Hayes
*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	Hymn of Advent	arr. Lloyd Larson
Scripture and Sermon	Isaiah 2:1-5	Mark Gaskins
But in the Meantime . . .		

We Respond to God’s Word

*Hymn of Response No. 96	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	HOUSTON
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment		Mark Gaskins

We Go Forth with God’s Blessing

*Commission and Benediction	Mark Gaskins	
**Postlude	Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People	Genevan Psalter, 1551

***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. We are now in the season 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.