The flowers in the sanctuary today are placed in memory of Charles Paul, former professor emeritus at Chowan University and member of Murfreesboro Baptist Church, by Linda Paul Martin and husband, Brett, Andrew Paul and wife, Sarah, and grandchildren Nicholas Martin, Abigail Paul, and Elise Paul.

#### Using their Gifts to Serve in October

Deacon of the Month of October: Wayne Brown
October Radio Ministry Sponsor: Lynette Bunch

Opening of the Church in October: Colon Ballance and Wayne Brown Ushers for October: Charlie Aycock, Lloyd Hill, and

Thomas Bird

Ushers for November: Steve Fowler, T.K. Warren, III, and

Mike Alston

Caregiver for October 8 – October 21: Judy Clark

This Week at Murfreesboro Baptist Church ...

Sun. Radio Broadcast, 98.3 10:00 A.M. Tues. Deacons' Meeting 6:00 P.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wed. Kids' Club 6:00-6:45 P.M. Choir Practice 6:00 P.M.

The Deacons will meet on Tuesday, October 10 at 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday, October 15 Murfreesboro Baptist Church will have a welcome pot-luck lunch for Dr. and Mrs. Gaskins. The church will provide the meat and we ask that you bring a vegetable, casserole, or dessert.

On Sunday October 15 MBC will hold its Annual Ministry Fair. Please give thought as to how you can best serve your church and its missions.

Union Missions Clothing Drive - October is the month to donate all your unwanted, non-fitting or out of style clothing to help Union Mission in Roanoke Rapids. Please leave your donations in the connector. Deadline is October 31.

We encourage everyone to invite family members and friends to the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Church being held on November 12, 2023. Please supply us with a list of names of those who will be attending.

MBC will host its annual Trunk or Treat on Oct 29 at 5:30 pm. The evening will begin with a pizza dinner from Napoli's. Then the children will visit the trunks in the parking lot for treats. The community and congregation are invited. Costumes are encouraged but not required. Volunteers are needed for trunks. If you are willing to bring chips or drinks, please let Sarah Davis know.

Please remember these friends who cannot worship with us regularly:

Phil Royce Janet Collins Bern Davenport Tom and Ann Caulkins Randy and Cheryl Whitley

Contact us at:

## **MURFREESBORO BAPTIST CHURCH**



# The Lord's Day, October 8, 2023 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins, Pastor Mrs. Paula Pressnell, Organist and Choir Director Rev. Thomas Caulkins, Pastor Emeritus

### We Gather to Worship

Prelude Prelude on "Kingsfold"

arr. Rex Koury

O God, prepare us, through the active presence of your Holy Spirit, to come before you worthily and ask of You rightly. Enlighten our understanding, purify our every desire, encourage our wills to instant obedience to your Word, strengthen every right purpose, direct this hour of worship to the magnifying of Your name, and to the enduring good of us your children and servants. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Words of Welcome Dr. Mark Gaskins

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Choral Call to Worship NO. 362

I Love You, Lord

I LOVE YOU, LORD

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You, O my soul, rejoice! Take joy, my King, in what You hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

Response

Based on Psalm 19:7-14 (NRSV)

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.

The decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart.

The commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

By them is your servant warned. In keeping them there is great reward.

But who can detect their errors? Clear us from hidden faults.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O LORD, our rock and our redeemer.

Invocation Dr. Gaskins

#### We Hear God's Word

\*Hymn of Praise No. 323 How Great Thou Art O STORE GUD

Children's Sermon Ms. Sarah Davis

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 12:1-9 Dr. Gaskins

The Word of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Church at Prayer

Call to Prayer

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

\*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 71 Be Th

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Thanksgiving with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Sentence Dr. Gaskins
Offertory Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee Dykes/Berry
\*Doxology 706 Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow
\*Offertory Prayer Dr. Gaskins

New Testament Lesson Hebrews 11:8-10

The Word of the Lord **Praise His Holy Name!** 

Message in Song Oh Happy Day! Edward Rimbault

Sermon "Destination: Unknown, But Certain" Dr. Gaskins

## We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\*Hymn of Invitation No. 548 When We All Get to Heaven HEAVEN

## We Go Forth with God's Blessing

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

Dr. Gaskins

Dr. Gaskins

Commission and Benediction

\*\*Postlude Jubilate Deo! Edward Broughton

#### To our guests this morning . . .

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to worship today at Murfreesboro Baptist Church. We believe that worshiping together is one of the most important activities we do as a church, strengthening our faith and drawing our attention to God, who created us, calls us, and sustains us by the power of the Holy Spirit. In keeping with New Testament practices, we believe that worship rightly involves every member of the congregation, not just the few people in leadership roles. We encourage active participation in worship through responsive readings, corporate prayer, giving our tithes and offerings, and singing hymns together.

As Baptists, we emphasize the reading and preaching of the Bible, God's written word. We also practice believers' baptism, and at the end of each service, we invite those who are not already believers to make a public profession of faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior. We frequently share the Lord's Supper, which is open to all baptized Christians.

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 currently in the season after Pentecost. The color for the season is green, symbolizing the growth we experience as disciples of Christ Jesus.

<sup>\*</sup>Please stand as you are able.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Please remain seated until the conclusion of the music.