

Using their Gifts to Serve in December:

Deacon of the Month of December:  
December Radio Ministry Sponsor:  
Opening of the Church in December:  
Ushers for December:  
  
Caregiver for December 7-30:

Charlie Cole/Tommy Bird  
Don and Lynn Johnson  
Steve Fowler  
Don Johnson, Wayne Brown, Bruce Brown, and Bob Turner  
Charlie and Dell Aycock

This Week at Murfreesboro Baptist Church . . .

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

We will be receiving the CBF Offering for Global Missions throughout the month of December. Please make checks payable to MBC and mark your offering “Global Missions”.

Please join us as we will be observing Communion on Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2024.

If anyone with children under the age of five desires a nursery during the worship service, please speak to an usher and they will let Sarah Davis know, and she will go to the nursery. Thank you.

The children will once again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. We will collect cans of soup until Feb 11. Please place your cans on the table in the connector. Our goal this year is 250 cans.

The Installation Service for our pastor, Dr. Mark Gaskins, will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024. Please join us for the special occasion.

If you are looking for a way to help local families, the church food pantry is in need of volunteers willing to donate food items. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board next to the pantry in the fellowship hall.

Happy New Year  
from your Pastor and Church Staff!

Please remember these friends who cannot worship with us regularly:

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

200 West Main Street  
Email: office@murfbc.org

Contact us at:  
252-398-3613  
Website: www.murfbc.org

Murfreesboro, NC 27855

MURFREESBORO BAPTIST CHURCH



The Lord’s Day, December 31, 2023  
First Sunday of Christmas

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

We Gather to Worship

Prelude	<i>O Thou That Tellest</i>	Handel/Smith
Gathering Hymn No. 103	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> (verses 1 & 3)	ADESTE FIDELES
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! Come and behold Him, born the King of angels! O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!		
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!		
Words of Welcome	Dr. Bailey	
The Lord be with you! And also with you!		

Ministry Opportunities		Dr. Bailey
Call to Worship		Psalm 90:1-4, 10, 12 (NRSV)
When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph, <b>God is there.</b> When Jesus is presented at the temple, <b>God is there.</b> When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms, <b>God is there.</b> When Anna recognizes Jesus in the temple, <b>God is there.</b> This very morning, <b>God is here.</b> In the future we cannot see, <b>God is there. Let us worship God!</b>		
Invocation		Dr. Bailey
	<b><i>We Hear God’s Word</i></b>	
*Hymn of Praise No. 143	<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i>	GO TELL IT
Children’s Sermon		Ms. Sarah Davis
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 9:6; 61:6; 7:14	
The Word of God, for the People of God. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>		
The Church at Prayer		
Call to Prayer		Dr. Bailey
The Prayers of the People		Dr. Bailey
The Lord’s Prayer ( <i>trespasses</i> )		Congregation
*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 123		
<i>While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks</i> (verses 1, 2, 3, & 6)		CHRISTMAS
Thanksgiving with Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory Sentence		Dr. Bailey
Offertory	<i>Rejoice! He Is Here</i>	arr. Mark Hayes
*Doxology 706	<i>Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	OLD 100 <sup>TH</sup>
*Offertory Prayer		Dr. Bailey

Gospel Lesson	Luke 2:25-38	
The Word of the Lord. <b>Praise His Holy Name!</b>		
Message in Song	<i>Mary, Did You Know?</i> Rick Bailey, bass	Greene/Schrader
Scripture and Sermon		Dr. Bailey
	A Faith That Perseveres	
	<b><i>We Respond to God’s Word</i></b>	
Invitation to Christian Discipleship		
*Hymn of Response No. 125	<i>Angels, We Have Heard on High</i>	GLORIA
	<b><i>We Go Forth with God’s Blessing</i></b>	
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment		Dr. Bailey
Commission and Benediction		
**Postlude	<i>Today in Bethlehem</i>	Rick Parks
<i>*Please stand as you are able.</i>	<i>**Please remain seated until the conclusion of the music.</i>	
<b>To our guests this morning . . .</b>		
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 the hymns together.		
As Baptists, we emphasize the reading and preaching of the Bible, God’s written word. We also practice believers’ baptism. Toward 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 of Christmas. The color for the season is white, symbolizing the purity of the newborn baby Jesus.		