

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP
 March 1, 2026
 Second Sunday of Lent

WELCOME AND GREETING

God is Good **All the time.**
 All the time **God is Good**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

INTROIT "In This Very Room"

****CALL TO WORSHIP**

Agna Jallah

Like Nicodemus who came to Jesus by night,
We also come to Jesus with genuine questions
 Like Nicodemus who couldn't wrap his mind
 around being "born again" and the movement of the Spirit,
We struggle to comprehend the gift of God's grace.
 We stand in the tradition of those who have questioned and struggled.
We stand in the tradition of those who come by night
With uncertainty and hope.
 We open ourselves to be formed by your grace
As we come to You now with our whole-hearted selves .

****HYMN OF PRAISE** "Come and Find the Quiet Center" TFWS 2128

****OPENING PRAYER**

Agna Jallah

Everlasting God, in this season of Lent we contemplate the gracious
 mystery of the passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ, even as we humbly
 seek to follow him on that journey. And we bring with us the deep
 questions of our hearts. We ask those questions with courage and
 vulnerability, revealing our hopes and fears; others we ask in igno-
 rance, not seeing how they betray our own arrogance and judgment.
**Answer us, O God, with compassion and grace. As we live the ques-
 tions, help us live in you, as you live in us. Through Jesus Christ our
 Lord, we pray. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION

****SCRIPTURE READING** John 3: 1-17

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

****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.

SERMON Rev. Wil Posey

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Marji Hill
Moments of silent prayer & personal confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON
Merciful God, We confess that we have not loved you with our whole
heart. We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will, We have broken your law,
We have rebelled against your love, We have not loved our neighbors,
And we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Friends hear the good news:
 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
 that proves God's love toward us.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven
Glory to God. Amen

RECEIVING OF GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Ways you can give
Leave a gift in the Offering Plate
Online: www.murphyfirstumc.org/donate
Mail: PO Box 86, Murphy, NC 28906



Scan to give

****DOXOLOGY**

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.

****PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Rev. Marji Hill

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH pg 13

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, the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

****HYMN**

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

UMH 420

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

Rev. Wil Posey

****BENEDICTION** "Here Am I, Send Me"
 Here am I, send me, Here Am I Lord Send Me.
 Unto thee willingly yielded I come. Show the path that I must walk
 Compel me then to go, and if I stray bring back the light of day,
 For here am I, send me I pray.

Chiming of the Trinity

POSTLUDE

RESPONSE The light goes before us into the world.

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal TFWS: The Faith We Sing

**** Rise in body or spirit**
Our Service of Worship has ended
Our Worship through Service begins
All are welcomed to Worship..

Please assist us by registering your attendance in the App or notebooks
 located in the pews. If you didn't receive the text or email when we can-
 celled church, please be sure we have your correct phone number and
 email address.
 Please be aware that we are live streaming and recording this service and
 will be posting it to social media.

PRAYERS and CONCERNS

Ukraine and its people; Bill and Barbara Hughes; Carl Auvil; Teresa; Lori; Emma;
 Alice & Ron Lewis; Cindy; Carolyn; Carl & Christy Osborn; Baby Arlo; Baby Scot-
 tie; Joe Hartman; Michee Leone; Earl Riggs; Cissy Dyer; Marion Forsyth; Rex
 Odom; Rosemary Vicknair; Gary Hall; Alden Rohen; Susan Lee; Family of Sandy
 Parker; Tri County Students traveling mercies.

PRAYER TEAM: Email: prayfumc@gmail.com

*In an effort to have room for all prayer requests we will rotate off the names every
 3 weeks unless indicated, either by a notation on the blue prayer request card or
 by calling the church office. 828-837-2718 or email:
**admin@murphyfirstumc.org, Prayer Requests can be submitted on our
 Facebook page, YouTube live stream or by calling the church office.***

March 15 will be New Member Sunday. If you would like to join the
 church please reach our to Pastor Wil. at 386-647-6181.

Come renew your soul and tap into your creativity
with
Art & Soul

A contemplative art experience exploring themes such as
wilderness, self-reflection, and compassion.
 Using visual art and writing prompts, we will take time to breathe,
 contemplate, and create. No art background required. Materials provided.

At The Cherokee County Arts Council
 Wednesdays from 1-2pm on the following dates in 2026
 February 25th March 4th March 11th March 18th
 Sponsored by Murphy First UMC, The CCAC, and Common Ground
 To sign up-call Sue Corley 561-329-4111 or email pastorsuecorley@yahoo.com

Lenten Community Practices

Lenten Lectio Divina Mondays, Noon-12:45 February 23-March 30

Follow the Daily Reading from the gospel according to John.
 The daily reading plan is available on FUMC's website, Facebook page, and in the
 office upon request.

Centering Prayer – Tuesdays with Pastor Wil—Noon

Art and Soul – February 25, March 4, 11, 18 1-2 pm at the Cherokee County Arts
 Council

Soul Table—through acts of service and giving—Thursdays, in the Fellowship Hall

Parents of Young Children

During Worship (11am)*
 Nursery (2 rooms) - Birth-2, and 3-5 year olds
 Worship readiness—K-5th Grade
 No Worship Readiness on Communion Sundays. Kids
 stay in church.



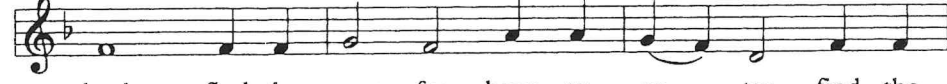
*Nursery is open from 9:45am-12pm, though children are welcome in wor-
 ship and will then be released after Children's Time to return to their nursery
 or Worship Readiness or remain in the Sanctuary

GRACE

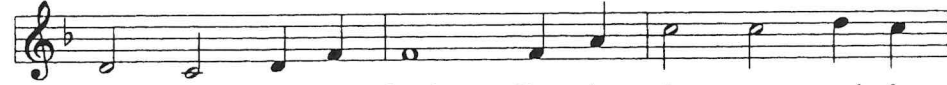
2128 Come and Find the Quiet Center



1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we
 2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
 3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's



lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the
 pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
 pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate



frame where we are freed: Clear the chaos and the
 being, touches base, making space within our
 brate the space we gain: There's a place for deepest



clutter, clear our eyes that we can see all the
 thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising
 dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the



things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
 courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
 Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray
 MUSIC: Attr. to B. F. White
 Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

BEACH SPRING
 87.87 D

Sermon Notes



1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
 2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
 3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
 4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,



that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
 until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
 till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.
 but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.



WORDS: Edwin Hatch, 1878 (Jn. 20:22)
 MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM
 SM

OFFERING

As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung as the offering is received.

The bread and wine are brought by representatives of the people to the Lord's table with the other gifts, or uncovered if already in place.

A hymn, doxology, or other response may be sung as the gifts are presented.

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

The pastor takes the bread and cup, and the bread and wine are prepared for the meal.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One of the musical settings on pages 17-25 may be used if desired.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.*
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.*

*Words appropriate to the day, season, or occasion may be added at these points.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me."

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.*

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

Amen.

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

The pastor breaks the bread and then lifts the cup, in silence or with appropriate words.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The bread and wine are given to the people, with these or other words being exchanged:

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The congregation sings hymns while the bread and cup are given.

When all have received, the Lord's table is put in order.

The pastor or congregation may then give thanks after Communion.

HYMN OR SONG

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Amen.

GOING FORTH

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE III

*This text provides only congregational responses for Holy Communion.
The service through the Entrance and the Proclamation and Response is guided by a
bulletin or by announcement.
This text may be used when a Service of Christian Marriage or a Service of Death and
Resurrection includes Holy Communion.*

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

The pastor takes the bread and cup, and the bread and wine are prepared for the meal.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One of the musical settings on pages 17-25 may be used if desired.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Next Week: March 8, 2026
Third Sunday of Lent, Time Change—Spring Ahead

This Week's Ministry Opportunities

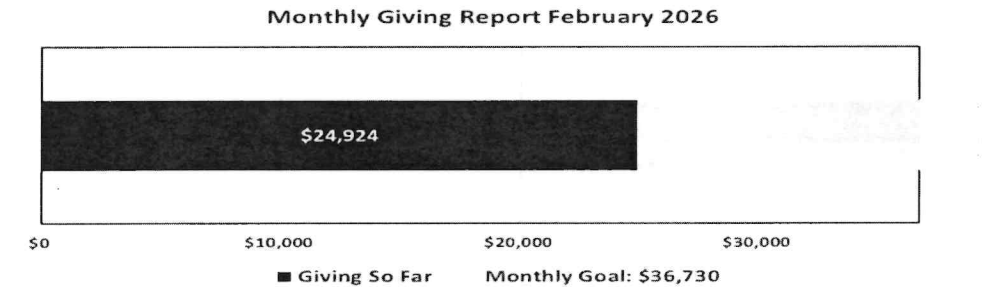
Sunday, March 1		Thursday, March 5	
Sunday School	9:45 am	Mom's Spiritual Formation	9:30 am
Worship Service	11:00 am	Quilters	10:00 am
Youth	4:00 pm	Soul Table	11:30 am
Monday, March 2		Friday, March 6	
Preschool	8:00 am	Preschool	8:00 am
Yoga	10:30 am	Chair Exercise class	11:30 am
Chair Exercise class	11:30 am		
Lenten Lectio Divina	12:00 pm	Saturday, March 7	
Tuesday March 3		Al Anon	10:00 am
Tax Preparation (appointment)	9:00 am	Sunday, March 8	
Centering Prayer	12:00 pm	Sunday School	9:45 am
VRR	5:00 pm	Worship Service	11:00 am
		Youth	4:00 pm
Wednesday, March 4		Potluck Sunday will be March 15 and the SPPR Committee will be our hosts. Please plan to attend.	
Preschool	8:00 am		
Worship Staff Meeting	10:00 am		
Chair Exercise class	11:30 am		
Wednesday Bible Study	1:00 pm		
Art & Soul CCAC	1:00 pm		
Children's Choir	3:15 pm		
Wesley Ringers	4:30 pm		
Choir	5:30 pm		

OUR FAITHFULNESS 2026

Worship attendance February 22 158

Received February 22 \$ 7,035

Detailed Financial information is available at the church office upon request.



FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE

"Lent is a time in which the church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life."

Pope Leo XIV

Save the date: Sunday March 22nd 12-2pm
2nd Annual Preschool Scholarship Fundraiser

Baked potato and salad bar, followed by preschooler's performance and a Barn Dance with live music. Tickets available through Preschool families and committee members.

WINTER WORD SEARCH

W S K Q Y U J S I C E C R Y S T A L D G
 E K V L X K B K M V J A C K F R O S T P
 T I P O L A R A D F J T F Y P G P U O W
 A N H R J I S T U N X F D X I C Z E O G
 L G E X X C K E S Y R L O Y N E E X P V
 O F I R E W O O D A S M F Q E W G D A E
 C D C E S H N H C D E L Y X C Y G E B E
 O E S E R M G S Y A G F O G O G N D T G
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 C F A A I K A C W R N Q N J E Q G Y G U
 T D S C N J P H E B N M T J S R F F L U
 O S S T D K T I T R S C I J K R C M O X
 H T N I E A A L O E T P E H O B H N V B
 G G E U E C O L J G Z I A S C X U J E G
 S Q T R R C C T F N N V T A C L M K S V
 R W T F S V P K V I A Y K P N O E Y U R
 O L I L X A W S U G A R P L U M L D O V
 R M M J Y B E A R M U F F S Q W T D R H
 V J W L U L Q X N G Y G N W F S N O W O
 Z N S J H E O H H O C K E Y P V T A F D

WORD LIST

CHILL	FROSTY	ICE CRYSTAL	REINDEER
CHIMNEY	FRUITCAKE	JACK FROST	SCARF
COAT	GINGERBREAD	MELT	SKATE
COLD	GLOVES	MITTENS	SNOW
EARMUFFS	HOCKEY	PINE CONE	SUGARPLUM
EGGNOG	HOT CHOCOLATE	POLAR	SWEATER
FIREWOOD			

Homemade GIFTS MADE EASY

First United Methodist Church Murphy, NC



TRUSTEE ON CALL
March—Bruce Peck

Staff

Rev. Wil Posey, Pastor
 pastor@murphyfirstumc.org
 386-647-6181

Suzanne West, Director of Music
 music@murphyfirstumc.org

Maggie Corrigan, Administrative Assistant
 admin@murphyfirstumc.org

Jack Frahmman, Treasurer
 Treasurer@murphyfirstumc.org

Patty Singer, Nursery Worker
Mary Lee, Nursery Worker
Marlene Gray, Nursery Worker

Bridget Esterhuizen, Preschool Lead Teacher/ Director
 Preschool@murphyfirstumc.org

JoAnn Moore, Preschool Teacher

Everyone, Ministers

Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Monday and Friday Closed



Our Mission is to:
 Live as a community transformed by God's grace, sent to love and serve like Jesus.

Our Vision is to:
 Build communities of hope where all people experience belonging and abundant life.

73 Valley River Avenue, P. O. Box 86
 Murphy, NC 28906
 (828) 837-2718 - Office

Website: www.murphyfirstumc.org
 WiFi: MFUMC-Guest pw fumcguest1!
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fumcmurphy>