

# Merry Christmas!

## A Year of Restoration and Gratitude



As this year draws to a close, my heart is full. This season has been one of quiet restoration and abundant grace, and I wanted to pause and share a few of the ways the Lord has been so kind to me.

One of the greatest joys of this year has been welcoming my sixth grandchild, sweet Juniper Joyner. To watch my family grow has been such a gift. My grandchildren continue to be a daily source of laughter, wonder, and joy: James is now 8, Verity is 6, Rett Joyner-3, Luca -3, Gemma- 1 yr, Juniper 6 months. Each one feels like a reminder that God is always bringing new life and fresh joy.

This year also brought meaningful new beginnings. I began working with a wonderful missionary organization, Be One Together, and it has been a deep blessing to serve alongside people who love the Lord and care about His work around the world. I am continually encouraged by what God is doing through His people.

I also moved into a beautiful new home, a place of peace and safety that has truly felt like a gift from the Lord. I continue to teach piano to a group of wonderful students, and I remain grateful for the gift of music and the relationships that come with it.

One of the greatest anchors in my life has been my church family at Prays Mill Baptist Church. I am surrounded by beautiful brothers and sisters in Christ who have walked with me, prayed for me, and reminded me again and again of God's faithfulness.

This has been a season of plenty from the Lord, not just in material ways, but in healing, restoration, and hope. I often think of Job, and how after his long season of loss and suffering, Scripture tells us, "The Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former." That verse has become especially precious to me this year.

As Christmas approaches, my prayer is simple. That we would all pause to remember that God is near, that He restores what has been broken, and that His grace truly is sufficient for every season.

Wishing you a Christmas filled with peace, hope, and the deep joy that comes from knowing Christ.

With love,  
Lauren