

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 15, 2019 ✕ 11:00 am

✕ *The Season of the Church Year: The Third Sunday of Advent*

Today marks the third Sunday in the Season of Advent. The word “Advent” from the Latin, adventus, means “coming”. The Advent season is a time of preparation and expectation for two comings: the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ “in power and glory.” (Mark 13:26)

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Anita Thompson

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASTORAL SENTENCES

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

PRELUDE

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Joy Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy & Heather Roberts
Makynley, Macy & Sawyer

Let us pray . . .

**God of Advent,
Thank you that through you we can always find joy.
Help us to bring joy to our world by loving others the way you taught us.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Joy of our hearts.
Amen.**

INTROIT *Rejoice with Joy to the World* arr. Pepper Choplin
The Christmas Choir

+HYMN OF PRAISE 126 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

CHILDREN’S TIME & BLESSING Rev. Thompson

People of God, what is your prayer for these children?
**Our prayer is that they grow up to be like Jesus—strong and brave,
full of grace and truth, and that we will help them.**

✕ ✕ ✕

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 12:2-6 Mr. Scott Outlaw
In Pew Bible, page 785 of Old Testament
This is the word of God for the people of God;
Thanks be to God.

PASTORAL PRAYER Dr. Gilliam

+HYMN 112 *Child in the Manger* BUNESSAN

+OFFERTORY PRAYER Mr. Outlaw

OFFERTORY *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Trevor Mann
The Children Choristers

+DOXOLOGY VENI EMMANUEL

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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.

✕ ✕ ✕

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 11:2-11 Dr. Gilliam
In Pew Bible, page 13 of New Testament
This is the word of God for the people of God;
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *What About You?* Dr. Gilliam
*At the conclusion of the sermon, we will observe a time of silence to reflect on all that has
been experienced while we’ve worshiped together.*

INVITATION
*It is our tradition to offer a time of response near the end of worship. A response may take
the shape of a profession of faith in Jesus Christ and desire to be baptized, a request for
church membership, or the sharing of a prayer concern or praise which may be
communicated with the congregation or safely kept between the sharer and minister.
Please respond as you feel led during the Hymn of Response.*

+HYMN OF RESPONSE 148 *What Child is This?* GREENSLEEVES

+BENEDICTION

Dr. Gilliam

+CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

MUELLER

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

+CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

As the chimes strike three times—in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—our corporate worship ends, and our opportunity begins to be the presence of Christ in the world, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

+POSTLUDE

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

We give thanks for those caring for our young ones today in Extended Session while we worship:

Babies: Kari Pierce & Taylor F. Rose
Ages 1 & 2: Alex & Sarah G. Britton
Age 3 – Kindergarten: Harriet Byrum & Claudia Morris
Floater: Melanie Byrum



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III (Trey)
Pastor

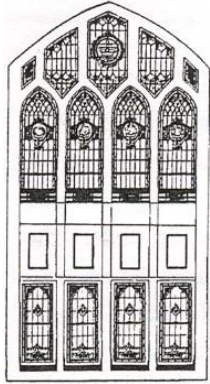
Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mr. W. Bland Baker
Music Associate

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Main & West Streets ♦ Post Office Box 649 ♦ Ahoskie, North Carolina 27910
www.fbcahoskie.org ♦ (252) 332-4003 ♦ office@fbcahoskie.org

The First Baptist Church of Ahoskie is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship congregation.



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

December 15, 2019

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✦ Annual Christmas Cantata: *Joy to the World!*

Today at 6:00 pm & Sunday, December 22 at 11:00 am

This year's cantata will feature all five of our choral groups: Music Friends (age 3-K), Children Choristers (grades 1-5), Chairo, Vocal Ensemble, and Christmas Choir. Childcare is provided for age 3 – kindergarten children. A homemade

Christmas Cookie Fellowship will follow tonight's service. Please bring a batch of your favorite recipe to share.

✦ December Music Rehearsals

15 Sunday

- 3:00 pm Instrumental Rehearsal
- 4:00 pm Christmas Cantata Run-Through: Chairo, Christmas Choir & Vocal Ensemble
- 4:45 pm Children Choristers join rehearsal.
- 5:15 pm Snack Supper
- 5:30 pm Age 3—K Music Friends gather in room 105
- 6:00 pm Christmas Cantata Presentation 1
- 7:00 pm Christmas Cookie Reception

18 Wednesday

- 5:00 pm Children's Birthday Party for Jesus
- No Adult Rehearsals

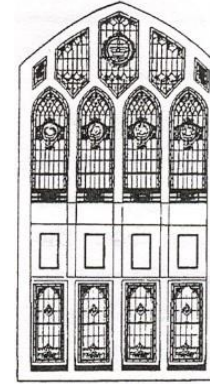
22 Sunday

- 10:40 am Chairo, Christmas Choir & Vocal Ensemble in Choir Room
- 11:00 am Christmas Cantata Presentation 2

✦ Christmas Open House at the Gilliam's

Sunday, December 22; 3:00—5:30 pm

620 Lakeview Dr., Murfreesboro



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☒ Wednesday Night Schedule – December 18

Hostess Committee Servants: Wally McKeel & Jim & Dana Wiggins

5:00 pm Supper Line Opens

Menu: Hamburger steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas, dessert, tea or water.

\$5 suggested donation (cost to the church is \$7.50 per person); age 4 & under eat free.

5:00 pm Children's Christmas Party: •Ages 3-K, Room 105 •Grades 1-5, Choir Room

5:00 pm Women's Adult Bible Study, Room 106

6:00 pm Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary

6:00 pm Youth Group Meeting, Youth Room (308)

6:30 pm Supper Line Closes

There is no Christmas Choir, Sanctuary Choir or Vocal Ensemble rehearsal.

☒ Christian Women's Job Corps Angel Tree

Gifts need to be at church by December 19. Please keep your angel with your gifts. For more information, contact Pat Byrd, CWJC Director.

☒ Annual Global Missions Offering Ingathering

We'll receive this annual offering through the end of March. Our goal is \$8000. Please prayerfully consider how you will support the mission work of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

☒ Operation Inasmuch Christmas Day Lunch

December 25, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

We are honored to host once again our annual Operation Inasmuch Christmas Day Lunch. We are pleased to partner with other area churches to provide a free, delicious, hot meal, and fellowship for anyone in our community who would like to come.

First Baptist's responsibilities include cooking a turkey, preparing a large pan of dressing (roaster pan size), and providing cakes for dessert. We will need 10 cakes that will feed approximately 15-18 people each. If you'd like to volunteer for any of these, please sign up on the bulletin board on the 2nd floor hallway or call the church office. All food items need to be at the church by 10:00 am on Christmas Day. They can be delivered prior to that day if needed.

And if you'd like to help with set up, serving, delivery of meals to the homebound, or clean up, please call Pat Byrd at 252-332-4122.

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ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Joy

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy & Heather Roberts
Makynley, Macy & Sawyer

Reader 1: The things we get for Christmas will not last as long as the things we get *from* Christmas. We will finish our Christmas treats, get bored with our Christmas toys and grow out of our Christmas clothes. But the things we get from Jesus this Christmas and always - hope, peace, joy and love - will be with us all our life.

Reader 2: Why do we light the Advent candles?

Reader 1: We lit the first and second candles to remind us of the Hope and Peace we have in Jesus. The third candle is the candle of JOY. Its light reminds us that even though there is much sadness in the world, the joy of Christ that lives deep within us is always there.

Reader 2: We light this candle for JOY. (light the third candle)

Reader 1: Let us pray . . .

**Everyone: God of Advent,
Thank you that through you we can always find joy.
Help us to bring joy to our world
by loving others the way you taught us.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Joy of our hearts.
Amen.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Peace

Mr. & Mrs. Josh & Jessica Brinkley
Lily Ann & Bryant

Reader 1: The things we get for Christmas will not last as long as the things we get *from* Christmas. We will finish our Christmas treats, get bored with our Christmas toys and grow out of our Christmas clothes. But the things we get from Christ this Christmas and always - hope, peace, joy and love - will go with us all our life.

Reader 2: The first candle is the candle of Hope.
What is the second candle?

Reader 1: The second candle is the candle of PEACE.
Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He is *our* peace.
His peace is deep within us.
It spreads from us to friends and strangers
and brings justice to our world.

Reader 2: We light this candle for peace.

**Everyone: God of Advent,
thank you that even though we see no special star in the sky
or hear angels singing,
there is a real sense of your peace within us at Christmas
time. Thank you that you are always with us
sharing in our good and bad times,
and giving us your peace.
In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, we pray.
Amen.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Hope

Mr. & Mrs. Pate & Anna Pierce
Fletcher, Camille & Liza

Reader 1: The things we get for Christmas will not last as long as the things we get *from* Christmas. We will finish our Christmas treats, get bored with our Christmas toys and grow out of our Christmas clothes. But the things we get from Christ this Christmas and always - hope, peace, joy and love - will go with us all our life.

Reader 2: Why do we light the Advent candles?

Reader 1: The first Advent candle is the candle of Hope. Jesus is our hope. He died on the cross to save us and gives us everlasting life. "The light of hope shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out."

Reader 2: We light this candle for hope. (lights the first candle)

Reader 1: Let us pray . . .

**Everyone: God of Advent,
on this first Sunday in the season of Advent
you call us to waken and watch for your coming again.
May we wait for Christ's coming with hope in our hearts,
hope that this Christmas your kingdom will come more fully
in our lives and through your church.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Hope. Amen.
Amen.**