



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

March 14, 2021 ✕ 8:30 & 11:00 am

✕ *The Season of the Church Year: The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Anita Thompson

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASTORAL SENTENCES

Rev. Dr. Trey Gilliam

ORGAN PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mrs. Victoria Outlaw, 8:30 am

Mrs. Austine Evans, 11:00 am

God of love,
We often forget the beginning of our story—
that we were made from love, to be love, to give love.
We forget that first there was You, and You *are* love.
We forget that out of that love You created us.
We forget that from the very first day, You loved first.
We forget, because a love like that doesn't make sense to us.

Forgive our low self-esteem.
Forgive our resistance to love ourselves.
Forgive our hesitation to trust that even we could be made good.
And forgive our tendency to pass that doubt on—from generation to generation.
Write a new beginning for us that roots our confidence in Your unrelenting love.
Through Christ, with hope, we pray, again and again. Amen.

ANTHEM

By the Gentle Waters
Judy G. Pierce, Claire Presley & Scott Outlaw

Cindy Berry

*By the gentle waters, You will safely lead me, in green pastures feed me, knowing what is best.
Though I often stray, wander far away, I can hear You say, "Come to me and rest."*

*Though the path be rough and rugged, though the trail be dark and steep,
Still the gentle Shepherd watches o'er His sheep.*

*There's no need to fear when the Shepherd's near. When Your voice I hear, I find comfort sure.
Free from all alarm, sheltered from all harm, safely in Your arms, I can rest secure.*

With the flock abiding, all my needs suppling, comforting and guiding, leading all the way.

*Jesus, loving Shepherd, You'll forsake me never. In Your flock forever, I am not alone.
Though the darkness hide me, You are close beside me.
Gentle Shepherd, guide me 'til I'm safely home."*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Mrs. Victoria Outlaw, 8:30 am

Mrs. Austine Evans, 11:00 am

Family of faith,
no matter what we do, where we go, or what we tell ourselves,
let us hold tight to these two truths —

God is love. God loves us.

Again and again, we are claimed, held, forgiven, cared for, and deeply, deeply loved.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

+HYMN OF PRAISE 405 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

BRADBURY

See page 4.

✠ ✠ ✠

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.**

✠ ✠ ✠

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 3:14-21

Dr. Gilliam

This is the word of God for the people of God;

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Look This Way

Dr. Gilliam

*At the conclusion of the sermon, we may observe a time of silence to reflect on all that has been
experienced while we've worshiped together.*

✠ ✠ ✠

+LITANY FOR THE OFFERING

Mr. Scott Outlaw, 8:30 am

Mrs. Mary Page Pierce & Stuart, 11:00 am

As we worship God with our offerings, this is our prayer:

O God, who is the source of all good things, we bring to You our gifts.

Enable us, along with our offerings,

to give You the love of our hearts and the service of our lives;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+LENTEN DOXOLOGY – Hymn 377

GREEN

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Blessed Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done. Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠

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 184 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*
See page 5.

ST. CHRISTOPHER

+BENEDICTION

Dr. Gilliam

+LENTEN RESPONSE

arr. Mark Edwards

Jesus, keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calv'ry's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY & ORGAN POSTLUDE

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ollie and Hannah Brown, by their children, Debbie, David, Anna Bess, and Sam, and their families.

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

405

1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need Thy ten - der care;
 2. We are Thine; do Thou be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3. Thou has prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4. Ear - ly let us seek Thy fa - vor; ear - ly let us do Thy will;

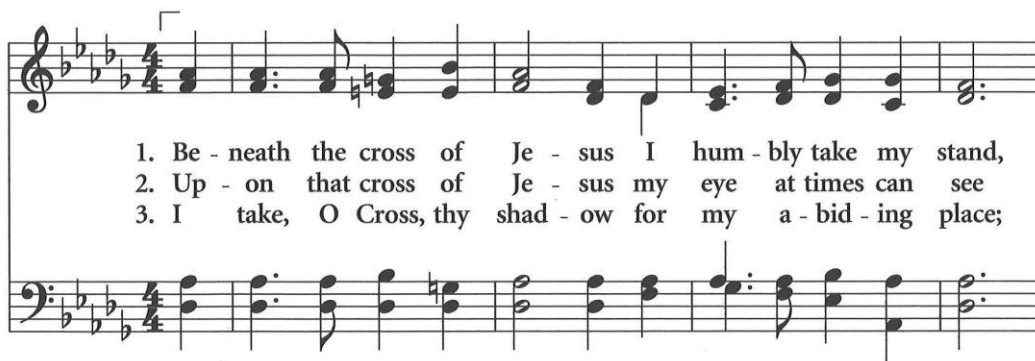
in Thy pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use Thy folds pre-pare:
 keep Thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray:
 Thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free:
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with Thy love our be - ings fill:

bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou has bought us, Thine we are;
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to Thee;
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou has loved us, love us still;

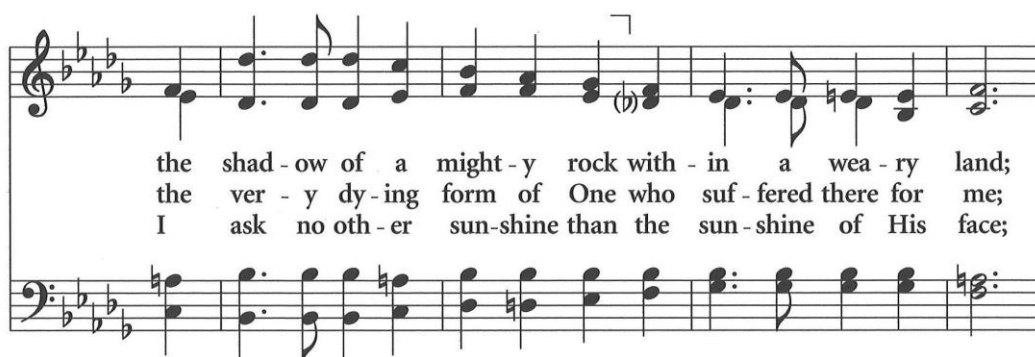
bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to Thee.
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

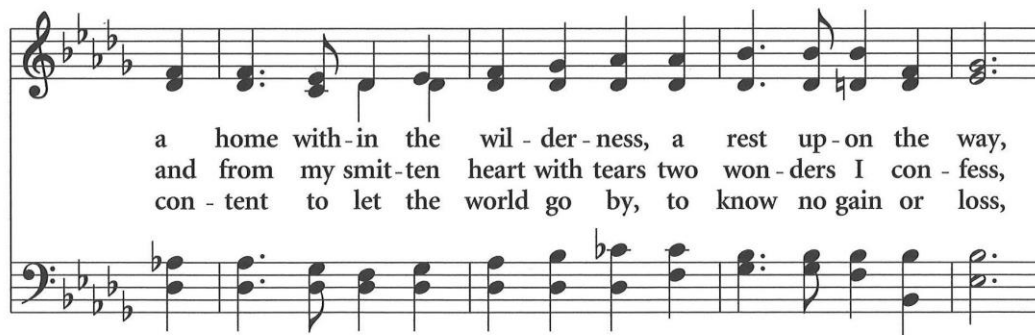
184



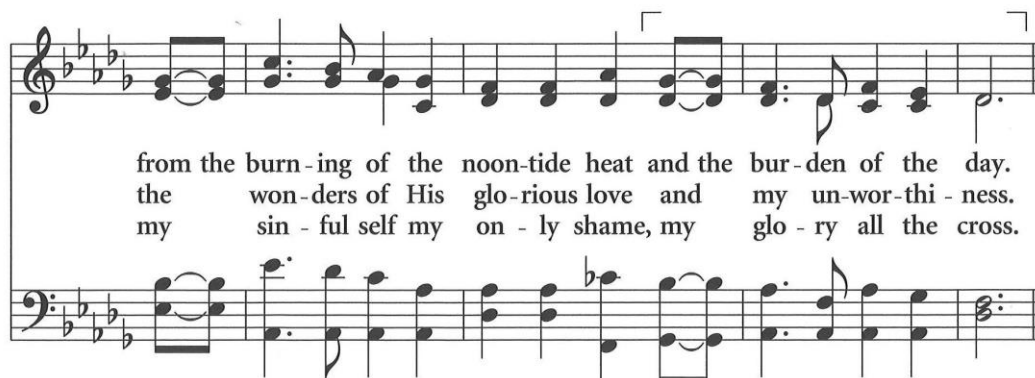
1. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I hum - bly take my stand,
 2. Up - on that cross of Je - sus my eye at times can see
 3. I take, O Cross, thy shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



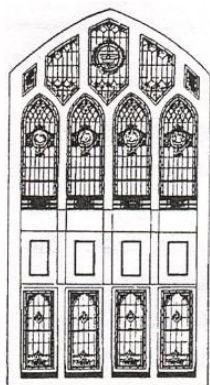
the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land;
 the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of His face;



a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 and from my smit - ten heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess,
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and the bur - den of the day.
 the won - ders of His glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

March 14, 2021

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✦ Worship Notes

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment for all worshipers, please abide by the following guidelines.

- ♦Masks should be worn at all times, everywhere in the building.
- ♦Though there will be no congregational singing, you're invited to stand and sing in your

heart to the Lord.

- ♦Should you need to exit during the service, please exit by the doors on either side of the chancel.
- ♦You're encouraged to sit and reflect during the postlude.
- ♦Offering – please place your offering in the plates located at the doors on either side of the chancel.
- ♦Please practice social distancing as you depart.

FBC Ahoskie holds a copyright license (20520822 Size B) and a streaming license (20520815 Size B) with CCLI, account 1577531. We also hold a copyright license with One License, A-609881.

✦ Wednesday In-Person Activities

5:00 pm Children's Music & Missions

Age 3 – K: Room 105

Grades 1-5: Choir Room

5:00 pm Women's Bible Study led by Kari Pierce

Room 106

✦ Churchwide Mission Project

Roanoke Chowan S.A.F.E. House - *Shelter for Abused Families with Emergencies*

Through March 17, our church will gather supplies for the Roanoke Chowan S.A.F.E House. If you'd like to support this project, please bring any of the following items and place them in the plastic bin near the hospital board on the 1st floor.

Paper Towels

Toilet Paper

Diapers of All Sizes

Kleenex Tissues

Washing Powder

Feminine Products

✦ Children's Roles on Palm Sunday

On Sunday, March 28, our grades 1-5 children will ring bells in celebration of the remembrance of Christ's entry into the city of Jerusalem as the crowd shouted their hosannas. Parents are asked to let Rev. Thompson know if their child will be able to ring for both worship services, or for either 8:30 or 11:00.

Also, as is our tradition, any children present for either worship service will be given a palm branch with which they may wave in praise of our Christ.

✦ 2020—2021 Global Missions Offering

We have surpassed our \$5000 goal! Well done! If you've not yet given to this offering, it will be received through March 2021.

✦ Make Your Reservation for In-Person Worship

Reservations are required. And we are still wearing masks and observing appropriate distancing. Make your reservation by calling the church office (252) 332-4003 or contacting Anita or Trey by 5 pm each Friday.

The 11am service is live streamed on our church Facebook page, and broadcast on our local radio station, WQDK, 99.3. A link to the radio broadcast may be found on our website, and from this source may be heard anywhere in the world where internet service is available. A nursery is provided for the 11am service. Should you need to cancel your reservation, please contact Trey or Anita.

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/Pianist

Miss Bridget Deveney
Music Associate/Organist

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.