

*'Rejoice with me,
because I have found my sheep
that was lost!' - Luke 15:6*

The Worship of God ✠ August 15, 2021 ✠ Ordinary Time

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Main & West Streets ♦ Post Office Box 649 ♦ Ahoskie, North Carolina 27910
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The First Baptist Church of Ahoskie is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship congregation.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

August 15, 2021 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: Ordinary Time*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Anita Thompson

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASTORAL SENTENCES

Rev. Dr. Paul Gilliam

We gather not to be blessed,
but to bless.

We gather not to receive,
but to give.

We gather to bless God,
**and to give thanks and praise to God
for the life, ministry, death, resurrection,
and coming again of Jesus the Christ.**

Now let us be about our business.

Amen.

ORGAN PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Miss Jenni Byrd & Sophia, Acolytes

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION

Mr. Steven Hollingsworth

+HYMN OF PRAISE 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Rev. Thompson

Bible Presentation to 1st & 6th Graders

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 Psalm 66:16-20
In Pew Bible, page 650 of Old Testament
This is the word of God for the people of God;
Thanks be to God.

Mrs. Dana Wiggins

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Thompson

ANTHEM OF ASSURANCE *Jesus Paid It All*
The Vocal Ensemble

arr. Robert Sterling

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Thompson

In the life, death and resurrection of Jesus,
we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive,
no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal.
God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free.
Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ

+HYMN 627

Victory in Jesus

HARTFORD

✠ ✠ ✠

+LITANY FOR THE OFFERING

Mrs. Wiggins

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.**

+DOXOLOGY

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. Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 15:1-10
In Pew Bible, page 95 of New Testament

Dr. Gilliam

This is the word of God for the people of God;
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

God Has Dirty Hands

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.

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 405 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* BRADBURY

+BENEDICTION

+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.

+ORGAN POSTLUDE

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Earl & Linda Futrell, April Futrell & Austin Yeager, in memory of Eston E. Futrell, Sr., Jane Bullock, and Viola B. Futrell.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

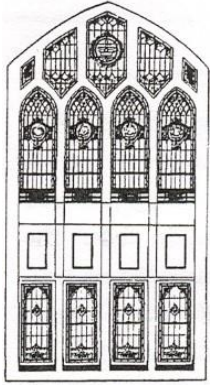
Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Paul R.
Gilliam III
Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mr. W. Bland Baker
Music Associate/Pianist

Miss Bridget Deveney
Music Associate/Organist



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

August 15, 2021

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✦ Worship Notes

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

Babies: Nancy Cobbs & Judy H. Pierce

Ages 1 & 2: Alex & Sarah Grace Britton

Age 3 - K: Harriet & Avery Byrum

Today we are presenting Bibles to our new 1st and 6th graders as we celebrate their transition to grade school and youth ministries.

✦ Meetings This Week

- ♦ Monday, August 16 at 7:00 PM – Building & Grounds Committee, Fellowship Hall
- ♦ Tuesday, August 17 at 7:00 PM – Deacons, Fellowship Hall

✦ Church Leadership for the 2021-2022 Church Year

On Sunday, August 22nd we will hold a church conference to vote on the Nominating Committee's recommendation of leadership persons to serve in the new church year beginning September 1, 2021.

We give thanks for the good work of the Nominating Committee members: Joyce Leary and Lou Riddick serve through August 31, 2021. Kay Byrd and Eley Whitehead serve through August 31, 2022. And Charles Freeman and Peggy Springfield serve through August 31, 2023.

✦ Wednesday Night Activities Resume August 25, 2021

5:00 PM Children's Music & Missions

- Age 3 - K in Room 105

- Grades 1 - 5 in Choir Room

6:00 PM Adult Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

✦ Heck-Jones Offering for WMU NC

We will receive the annual Heck-Jones offering throughout the month of August. This offering provides funds for the missions and ministries of the Woman's Missionary Union of NC. One of those ministries is Christian Women's Job Corps which is an important ministry of our church.

✦ Back to School

Throughout the month of August our local schools begin welcoming students for the 2021-2022 school year. Let us pray for the teachers, students, parents, staff and administrators as they navigate yet another school year under pandemic conditions. The first day of classes for area schools are:

August 5 Hertford County Early College High School

August 17 Northeast Academy & Southampton Academy (Courtland, VA)

August 18 Ridgcroft School, & Lawrence Academy

August 23 Hertford County Public Schools & Gates County Public Schools

August 24 Chowan University

✦ 2021 General Assembly of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

August 25-28, 2021

Experience it virtually by registering online at <https://cbf.net/general-assembly>. This year's theme is "Being Renewed from the Inside Out." Amid pandemics on a global scale and in our nation, in the midst of exhaustion and uncertainty, and preparing to face new seasons in our congregations and in our mission – there's hope found in Christ Jesus.

✦ Baptism on August 29

We look forward to celebrating the baptism of Lily Ann Brinkley on August 29. The daughter of Josh & Jessica Brinkley, Lily Ann is 10 years old and will begin the 5th grade at Ridgcroft School on August 18.

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