

The First Sunday of Advent



THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

November 28, 2021 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The First Sunday of Advent*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Anita Thompson

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASTORAL SENTENCES

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III

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 worship together with zeal.

Amen.

ORGAN PRELUDE

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Hope

Dr. Eley Whitehead

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:2-4

Faithful God, out of war's chaos, You bring the order of peace. Renew us in hope,
that we may work toward Christ's advent of peace among all nations.

God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

+ADVENT SONG

Creator of the Stars of Night

Ed Bolduc

Jordan Martin, Soloist

Chairo Music Ensemble

1. Creator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light;
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray You hear us when we call.
2. When we were drawing toward the night, You came, but not in splendor bright,
Not as a king but as a child of Mary blameless mother mild. *(Refrain)*

Refrain:



3. At Your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend all hearts must bow,
All things on earth with one accord, like those in heaven, call You Lord. (*Refrain*)



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.**



+HYMN 99

View the Present Through the Promise
Stanza 1

AR HYD Y NOS

+LITANY FOR THE OFFERING

Mrs. Penny Rose

Please Note: During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not passing offering plates in our usual manner, instead, you are encouraged to place your offering in one of the offering plates located at each sanctuary entrance.

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

**God of Glory, we eagerly anticipate the joy-filled celebration of Jesus' birth.
As we open ourselves again to this holy wonder, we offer You our gifts.
May the ministries they support help others to receive the saving message
of the Christ Child, in whose name, we pray. Amen.**

+ADVENT 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

Luke 1:1-4

Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, page 68 of New Testament

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

SERMON

That You May Know

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 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

+BENEDICTION

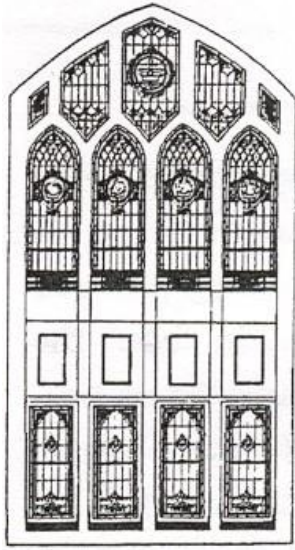
Dr. Gilliam

+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.



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

November 28, 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:	Debbie & Keith Rawls
Ages 1 & 2:	Georgia Copeland & Debbie Greene
Age 3 - K:	Jessica, Josh & Lily Ann Brinkley

✦ In Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to Patti Byrd in the November 21, 2021 passing of her husband, Henry Byrd. His funeral will be held at FBCA on Monday, November 29th at 11 AM. Visitation will be held at 10 AM in the church fellowship hall prior to the funeral.

We also offer our sympathy to the family of Bernice Umphlett who passed on November 22, 2021. Her funeral was held at Garrett-Sykes Funeral Home on Wednesday, November 24th.

✦ Christmas Cantata Presentations

- ♦ December 12th – Christmas Cantata at 11:00 AM
- ♦ Sunday, December 19th – Christmas Cantata at 6:00 PM

✦ Global Missions Ingathering - Sunday, December 12th

100% of your gifts to the annual Global Missions Offering supports the long-term presence of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries serving in the United States and around the world. If you would like to know more about CBF's mission work, you are invited to pick up a copy of Prayers of the People 2021-2022 which may be found near the sanctuary entrances.

✦ Congratulations

... to Miles Harrell and Victoria Polston who were married yesterday in Nashville, NC.

✦ Operation Christmas Child

We offer our thanks to Melanie Byrum, our OCC Coordinator, for her faithful work and dedication to the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry.

✦ 2022 Deacon Voting - Sunday, December 12th

We give thanks for the following persons who received the most nominations and have agreed to serve in deacon ministry. Church members will vote on these five persons on Sunday, December 12, 2021.

Nancy Freeman Lee Taylor Rose
Stuart Pierce Eley Whitehead
Walt Pierce

✦ FBCA Member Moving

Sophia Sumner will be moving to The Fountains in Tarboro on November 30, 2021.

✦ This Week's Calendar

Monday, November 29th

10:00 AM Visitation for Henry Byrd Family in FBCA Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM Memorial Service for Henry Byrd at FBCA
3:00 PM Staff Meeting
5:45 PM Girl Scouts

Wednesday, December 1st

5:00 PM Children's Music & Missions
6:00 PM Youth Group Gathering
6:00 PM Adult Bible Study
7:00 PM Christmas Choir Rehearsal
8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

Friday, December 3rd

8:30 AM Christian Women's Job Corps

✦ Ahoskie Garden Club Meeting Update

The Ahoskie Garden Club will not meet at FBCA on Wednesday, December 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Lou Riddick.

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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
Pianist

Miss Bridget Deveney
Organist