

The Second Sunday of Advent



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

December 5, 2021 ✠ 11:00 AM

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

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASTORAL SENTENCES

Dr. 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 worship together with zeal. **Amen.**

ORGAN PRELUDE

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: *Peace*

Mr. & Mrs. David & Elizabeth Davis,
Pace & Virginia

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6

Faithful God, give us Your shalom that we may be reconciled to enemies
in the peace that passes all understanding through Christ Jesus our Lord.
God of peace, God of hope, into our darkness come.

+ADVENT SONG

Creator of the Stars of Night
Jordan Martin, Soloist

Ed Bolduc

See Insert

✠ ✠ ✠

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Rev. Anita 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.

✠ ✠ ✠

+LITANY FOR THE OFFERING

Mr. Scott Outlaw

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.



ANTHEM

The Hands That First Held Mary's Child
The Christmas Choir

Craig Courtney

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 1:39-56

Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, pages 69 & 70 of New Testament

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

SERMON

It Matters Not

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.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

. . . Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. 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 79 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

+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.

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

Creator of the Stars of Night

Latin, 9th cent.

Vss.: *Creator alme siderum*

Tr. by John Mason Neale, alt.

Ref.: E.B.

Ed Bolduc

VERSES 1-3



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2. When we were draw - ing toward the night,
3. At your great name, O Je - sus, now



1. Your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light;
2. You came; but not in splen - dor bright,
3. All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;



1. O Christ, Re-deem - er of us all, _____ We pray you
2. Not as a king but as the child _____ Of Ma - ry,
3. All things on earth with one ac - cord, _____ Like those in



1. hear us when we call.
2. blame-less moth - er mild.
3. heav - en, call you Lord.

REFRAIN



Come, come in your ho - ly light, we pray. O



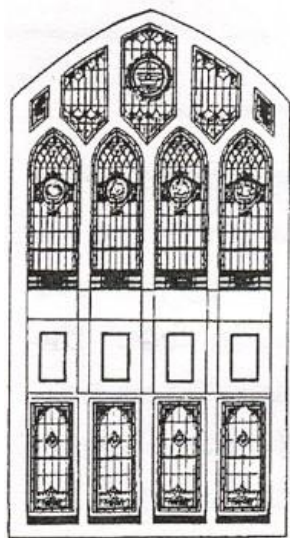
come, come re - deem us, Lord.



Come, come to your peo - ple now, we pray. O



come, come re - deem us, Lord.



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

December 5, 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:	Brian & Victoria Outlaw
Ages 1 & 2:	Bill & Debbie Magette
Age 3 - K:	Will & Landis Chamblee

✦ Adult Bible Study & Soup Supper

Homemade soup is now served each Wednesday evening at 6:00 PM during Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall.

✦ Christmas Cantata Presentations

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

✦ Children's Music & Missions December Schedule

Wednesday, December 1 st 5 PM	Regular Meeting
*Wednesday, December 8 th 5 PM	Birthday Party for Jesus
Sunday, December 19 th 11 AM	Music Friends (Age 3 - K) sing for worship

**December 8th is the last Music & Missions meeting of 2021.*

✦ 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.

✦ 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, Stuart Pierce, Walt Pierce, Lee Taylor Rose, and Eley Whitehead.

❖ Operation Inasmuch Christmas Day Lunch | 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. If you'd like to help with set up, serving, delivery of meals to the homebound, or clean up, please call Patti Byrd at 252-332-4122.

❖ This Week's Calendar

Today, December 5th

9:45 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

2:00 PM Christmas Cantata Rehearsal: Chairo, Sanctuary & Vocal Ensemble

Monday, December 6th

3:00 PM Staff Meeting

5:45 PM Girl Scouts

Tuesday, December 7th

10:00 AM WMU Groups 2 & 4

Wednesday, December 8th

5:00 PM Children's Birthday Party for Jesus

6:00 PM Youth Group Gathering

6:00 PM Adult Bible Study & Soup Supper

7:00 PM Christmas Cantata Rehearsal: Chairo, Sanctuary & Vocal Ensemble

Friday, December 10th

8:30 AM Christian Women's Job Corps

6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal: Alexander & Rowland

Saturday, December 11th

4:30 PM Wedding: Alexander & Rowland

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