

The Worship of God ✦ January 22, 2023 ✦ The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

312 West Main Street ♦ 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

January 22, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

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.**

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Miss Jenni Byrd & Sophia, Acolytes

INTROIT

*Christ Be Our Light*  
The Sanctuary Choir

Bernadette Farrell  
arr. Joel Raney

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in Your church gathered today.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Miss J. Byrd

+HYMN OF PRAISE 345 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

✠ ✠ ✠

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Rev. Anita Thompson

People of God, what is our 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.**

✠ ✠ ✠



RECESSIONAL OF THE LIGHT

POSTLUDE

*Please be seated for the postlude.*

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

*Today's altar flowers are given by Gene and JoAnn Herring to the glory of God and in honor of our great nieces, Allie & Avery Byrum.*

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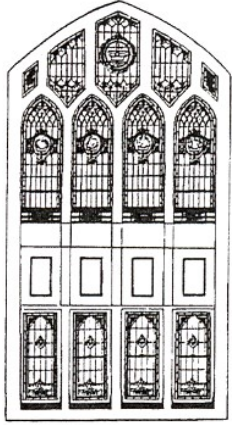
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Anita D. Thompson  
*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III  
*Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Mrs. Leah Newsome  
*Music Associate/Pianist*



# A Window on the Weeks Ahead

January 22, 2023

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

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## ✦ Worship Notes

♦ **The Season of Epiphany** - Following the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas, the church ushers in the Season of Epiphany. "As with most aspects of the Christian Year, Epiphany has theological significance. The term epiphany means 'to show' or 'to make known' or even 'to reveal.' The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the child Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as 'King' and so were the first to 'show' or 'reveal' Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that this child Jesus would be 'a light for revelation to the Gentiles' (Luke 2:32), was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few." – Dennis Bratcher

♦ **Childcare During Worship** We give thanks for those caring for our young ones today in Extended Session while we worship:

Ages 1 & 2: Georgia Copeland & Debbie Greene

Ages 3 & 4: Michelle Boyd & Sarah Jenkins

Kindergarten: Kimmi & Nathan Pierce

## ✦ Global Missions Offering of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

We will continue to receive this offering through March. Our goal is \$8,000. One hundred percent of your gifts to the Global Missions Offering support the long-term presence of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries serving around the world.

## ✦ Workday Volunteers Needed

The Gathering Place

Friday, January 27 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Saturday, January 28 | 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Volunteers are needed to provide meals for each workday and to assist with painting two classrooms and hall trim at The Gathering Place. All paint supplies are provided. Please contact Jamie Burns at (252) 332-9461 to sign up for painting or to provide a meal.

## ✦ Baptism on February 12, 2023

The baptism date for the siblings, Dempsey and Stuart Pierce, has been set. On Sunday, February 12, 2023, during the 11 AM worship service, we will celebrate Dempsey and Stuart's professions of faith. Dempsey (5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Stuart (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) are the children of Walt & Mary Page Pierce.

## ✘ This Week's Calendar

### Monday, January 23

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, January 25

5:15 PM Children's Music & Missions: Age 3 – Grade 5

6:15 PM Youth Group Gathering: Grades 6-12

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

### Friday, January 27

8:30 AM Christian Women's Job Corps, *The Gathering Place*

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Workday at *The Gathering Place*

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM Workday at *The Gathering Place*

### Sunday, January 29

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

2:00 PM Chairo Music Ensemble Rehearsal, *Choir Room*

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