

The Worship of God ✠ January 29, 2023 ✠ The 4th 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 29, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The 4th Sunday after Epiphany*

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.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Mr. Henry & Mr. Bennett Pierce, Acolytes

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 4:12-22

Mrs. Kari Pierce

In Pew Bible, page 4 of New Testament

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

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Mrs. Pierce

+HYMN OF PRAISE 617

Heavenly Sunlight

SUNLIGHT

✠ ✠ ✠

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Rev. 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.

✠ ✠ ✠

ANTHEM

Great Is the Lord
The Sanctuary Choir

arr. Gary Rhodes

+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Mr. Henry Pierce

OFFERTORY

+OFFERING RESPONSE

Hymn 156

Shine, Jesus, Shine
Refrain Only

SHINE

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

✠ ✠ ✠

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Micah 6:1-8

Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, pages 1060 & 1061 of Old Testament

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

SERMON

A Humble Walk

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 491

Wherever He Leads I'll Go

FALLS CREEK

+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.

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 to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harry W. "Pete" & Lucille W. Whitley, Harry W. Whitley Jr. & Wingate G. and Helen M. Joyner by Don & LuAnn Joyner and their children, Win & Elizabeth.

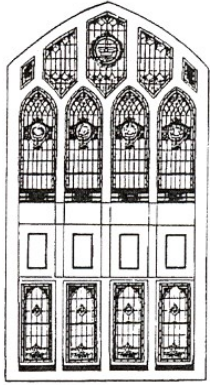
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

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 29, 2023

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✠ Worship Notes

♦ **The Season of Epiphany** - Following the 12th 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

The season of Epiphany ends with the Transfiguration of the Lord as found in Matthew 17:1-9. In 2023, Transfiguration Sundays falls on February 19.

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

Ages 1 & 2: Jenni Byrd & Nancy Freeman

Ages 3 & 4: Jamie Burns & Betty Cooper

Kindergarten: Bill & Debbie Magette

✠ Global Missions Offering of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

We will continue to receive this offering through March. Our goal is \$8,000 and our current total is \$7,518.18. 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.

✠ Baptism on February 12, 2023

The baptism date for 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 (5th grade) and Stuart (2nd grade) are the children of Walt & Mary Page Pierce.

✠ Churchwide Mission Project

FBCA is collecting toothbrushes and toothpaste for the Ahoskie Food Pantry to distribute with food boxes. If you would like to donate, a container will be available in the closet across from the kitchen. Items will be collected through February 28, 2023.

✠ Newsletter Article Submissions

Our weekly newsletter is released on Wednesdays. If there is information you would like published in our newsletter, please call or email the church office by noon on Monday.

✠ This Week's Calendar

Monday, January 30

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 1

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, February 3

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

Sunday, February 5

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship | The Lord's Supper

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

✠ Looking Ahead

- ♦February 22 Ash Wednesday Meal & Worship
- ♦February 26 First Sunday in Lent
- ♦April 2 Palm Sunday
- ♦April 6 Maundy Thursday Meal & Worship
- ♦April 7 Good Friday
- ♦April 9 Easter Sunday

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