



THIRD SUNDAY
in
LENT

The Worship of God ✦ March 12, 2023 ✦ The Third Sunday in Lent

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

March 5, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The Third Sunday in Lent*

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 & OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Mrs. Landis Chamblee & Mr. Mac Chamblee, Acolytes

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Dr. Eley Whitehead

+HYMN OF PRAISE *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

NETTLETON

Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
praise the one who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the Father's word of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;
praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water, quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done;
let us praise the true Redeemer, praise the one who makes us one.

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.**

✠ ✠ ✠

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

Miss Judy G. Pierce

In Pew Bible, pages 79 & 80 of Old Testament

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

CALL TO PRAYER

I Speak Jesus
Chairo

Reeves, Pratt, Benton,
Smith, Prince & Dutton

I just want to speak the name of Jesus over every heart and every mind,
'cause I know there is peace within Your presence. I speak Jesus.

I just want to speak the name of Jesus 'til every dark addiction starts to break.
Declaring there is hope and there is freedom. I speak Jesus.

I just want to speak the name of Jesus over fear and all anxiety.
To every soul held captive by depression, I speak Jesus.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Thompson

+ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hymn 576

I Stand Amazed in the Presence
Stanza 1

MY SAVIOR'S LOVE

✠ ✠ ✠

+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Miss Pierce

+LENTEN DOXOLOGY – Hymn 377

GREEN

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Blessed Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done. Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 5:1-11

Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, pages 188 & 189 of New Testament

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

SERMON

Peace with God

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 595

At the Cross

HUDSON

+BENEDICTION

Dr. Gilliam

+LENTEN RESPONSE

arr. Mark Edwards

Jesus, keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calv'ry's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

+CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

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 Hannah and Ollie Brown, by their children, Debbie, David, Anna Bess, and Sam, and their families.

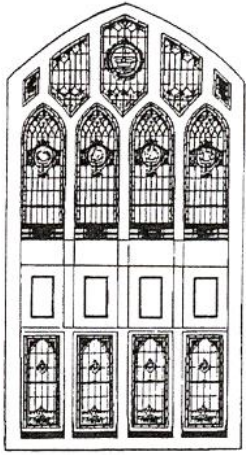
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

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

March 12, 2022

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✦ Worship Notes

♦ **The Christian Year** – *the church marks time differently than the secular world. We follow the Christian Year which begins with the Season of Advent four weeks prior to Christmas and ends with Christ the King Sunday on the Sunday prior to the beginning of Advent.*

We are currently into the third week of the Season of Lent which spans 40 weekdays beginning on Ash Wednesday and climaxing during Holy Week with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and concluding the Saturday before Easter. Since Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the six Sundays that occur during Lent are not counted as part of the 40 days. The number 40 is connected with many biblical events, but especially with the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for His ministry by facing the temptations that could lead Him to abandon His mission and calling. Christians today use this period of time for introspection, self-examination, and repentance. – Dennis Bratcher, adapted by ADT.

♦ Holy Week 2023

Palm Sunday, April 2 | 11:00 AM Worship Service

We remember the beginning of Christ's last week before His crucifixion. We will offer our praise to the Christ, who rode to Jerusalem on the back of a donkey while followers waved branches and shouted, "Hosanna, Hosanna!"

Maundy Thursday, April 6 | 6:00 PM Meal & 6:45 PM Worship Service

We remember the night Jesus met in the upper room with His disciples, the night Christ instituted the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday, April 7 | 7:00 PM Worship Service

We remember Jesus' betrayal, arrest and crucifixion for crimes He did not commit. The Adult Choir of Edenton Baptist Church will join with our Sanctuary Choir to present Mary McDonald's Holy Week cantata, "It Is Finished."

Easter Sunday, April 9 | 11:00 AM Worship Service

We celebrate the risen Savior!

✦ Childcare During Worship

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

Ages 1 & 2: Joyce Leary & Taylor F. Rose

Ages 3 & 4: Elizabeth Davis, Leah & Ben Woodard

Kindergarten: Melanie Byrum & Winnie Matthews

✠ Lenten Homily & Communion | March 15, 2023 | 6:15 PM

Throughout the Season of Lent, Dr. Gilliam will lead a weekly Lenten worship opportunity in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a homily (short sermon) and communion.

✠ Volunteer Opportunities

The Meals on Wheels and the Ahoskie Food Pantry ministries need volunteers. If you'd like to help with Meals on Wheels, contact Jayne Frei. For the Ahoskie Food Pantry, contact Vicky Overman. And if you'd like to help with the Christian Women's Job Corps ministry, contact Pat Byrd.

✠ This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 12 | *The Third Sunday in Lent*

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

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

Monday, March 13

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 15

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

6:15 PM Lenten Homily & Communion, *Fellowship Hall*

6:15 PM Youth Gathering, *FBCA Annex*

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

Thursday, March 16

7:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

Friday, March 17

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

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