

FIFTH SUNDAY
in
LENT

The Worship of God ✦ March 26, 2023 ✦ The Fifth 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 26, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The Fifth 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

Miss Lilli Willis & Mr. Eli Willis, Acolytes

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Mrs. Mary Ann Umphlett

+HYMN OF PRAISE 241

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

MANNA

✠ ✠ ✠

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 Ezekiel 37:1-6, 10-14

Mrs. Umphlett

In Pew Bible, page 987 & 988 of Old Testament

This is the word of God for the people of God;

thanks be to God.

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 Peggy Springfield

CHORAL OFFERTORY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
The Sanctuary Choir

arr. Mary McDonald

+LENTEN DOXOLOGY – Hymn 377

GREEN

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious 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 8:6-11

Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, pages 190 & 191 of New Testament

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

SERMON

You Can Do It!

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 235 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

+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

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 memory of Bobby Cross by his family.

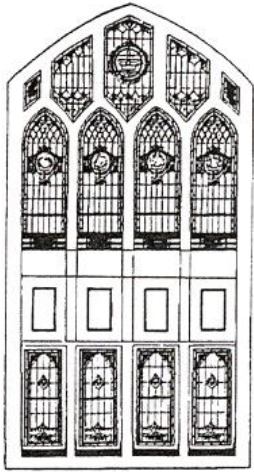
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

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 26, 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.*

Today we begin the fifth 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. To make a reservation, call the church office by noon on Tuesday, April 4. Meal donations of \$5.00 are appreciated but not required.

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: Georgia Copeland & Debbie Greene

Ages 3 & 4: Michelle Boyd & Sarah Jenkins

Kindergarten: Kimmi & Nathan Pierce

✦ Lenten Homily & Communion | March 29, 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.

✦ Easter Egg Hunt | April 8, 2023 | 10:00 AM

At the home of Stuart & Sandra Pierce, 107 DT Rd., Ahoskie. Children up to grade 5 and their families are invited to join us. Please bring Easter baskets to gather eggs. Candy donations accepted in the church office.

✦ This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 26 | *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

2:00 PM Chairo Music Ensemble Rehearsal

Monday, March 27

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 28

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

Friday, March 30

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

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