



The Worship of God ✦ April 9, 2023 ✦ Easter Sunday

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

April 9, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: Easter Sunday*

✠ *Christ the Lord is risen today. Alleluia!* ✠

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, for Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

PRELUDE AND PROCESSION OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Mr. Steven Hollingsworth & Mr. Henry Pierce, Acolytes

✠ *Glories again our glorious King. Alleluia!* ✠

EASTER LITANY

Mrs. Austine Evans

Beloved church, behold the victory of our God:

Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Sin and death shall reign no more!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Let this place resound with joy!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

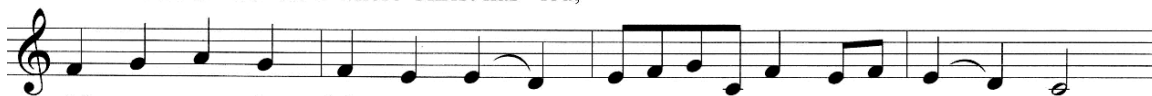
INTROIT

Introit on Easter Hymn
The Sanctuary Choir

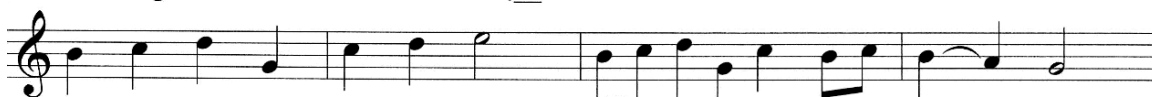
arr. Lloyd Larson



1. Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day,___ Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Love's re-deem-ing work is done,___
3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,___
4. Soar we now where Christ has led,



All cre - a - tion, join to say___ Al - le - lu - ia!
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,___
Where, O death, is now thy sting?___
Fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed Head,___



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
Death in vain for - bids Him rise,
Once He died our souls to save,
Made like Him like Him we rise,



Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth re - ply,___ Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. ___
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?___
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. ___

✠ *Love's redeeming work is done. Alleluta!* ✠

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 Psalm 118:1, 22-24 Miss Lily Ann Brinkley

In Pew Bible, pages 694 & 695 of Old Testament

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

+HYMN 208

He Is Lord

HE IS LORD

+LITANY FOR THE OFFERING

Mr. Bennett Pierce

We thank You, O God, for the cross and the tomb,
Easter's empty gifts that reveal the fullness of Your power and love.
**May the gifts we dedicate, and the lives we lead,
proclaim the Good News of the Risen Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Christ is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 27:62-66; 28:8-15

Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, pages 40 & 41 of New Testament

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

SERMON

Find A Way!

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

Dr. Gilliam

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 620

Because He Lives

RESURRECTION

✠ *Soar we now where Christ has led. Alleluia!* ✠

+BENEDICTION

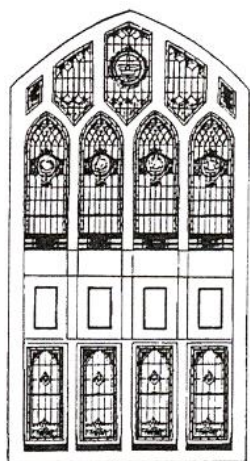
Dr. Gilliam

+CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Please be seated for the postlude.

+Those who are able are invited to stand.



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

April 9, 2023

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 celebrate the most high and holy day of the Christian Year. Easter, also called the Resurrection of the Lord, is the center of the Christian Year, and the good news we proclaim on this day is the very heart of the Gospel. The faith we claim and the life we live depend on the affirmation, celebration, and proclamation of Christ's resurrection.

✠ 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

✠ WMU Churchwide Mission Project | Easterseals UCP

Easterseals UCP, Ahoskie serves people with intellectual disabilities in Hertford and surrounding counties. Programs provided include adult respite, children's afterschool care, and Summer Day Camps. Items will be collected through April 30, 2023. They are in need of the following items:

- Individual Juices
- Ziplock Bags (Gallon & Quart sizes)
- Large Trash Bags
- Snack Packs of Chips (Assorted)
- Mini Bottled Water
- Snack Packs of Cookies (Assorted)

✠ Prayer Prompt for The Gathering Place Ministries

Please pray for our Christian Women's Job Corps participants and our residents at the North Street House that they will put God first in their lives, meet their goals for employment and education, and find stable housing for their families.

✦ In Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family of FBCA member, Phil Sisler, who died on April 2nd. A memorial service was held at FBCA on Saturday, April 8th. Let us hold in prayer Phil's wife, Debbie; his daughters, Jen, Katie, and Tana, and their families.

✦ Happy Staff Anniversary!

Rev. Anita Thompson celebrates her 21st staff anniversary at First Baptist Church of Ahoskie on April 15, 2023.

✦ This Week's Calendar

Sunday, April 9 | *Easter Day*

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

There are no afternoon or evening activities.

Monday, April 10

The church offices are closed for the Easter holiday.

Wednesday, April 12

There are no afternoon or evening activities.

Thursday, April 13

7:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee, Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 14

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

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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
Pianist