



*Like a mother with her children,
You will comfort us each day,
giving guidance on our journey,
as we seek to find our way.*

- Jann Aldredge-Clanton

The Worship of God ✦ May 14, 2023 ✦ The 6th Sunday after Easter
Mother's Day

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

May 14, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The 6th Sunday after Epiphany*
Mother's Day

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

Mrs. Suzanne Newbern & Miss Sarah Newbern, Acolytes

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 118:1, 24

Dr. Lyndsay Britt

INTROIT

This is the Day the Lord Has Made
The Sanctuary Choir

Mark Hayes

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Dr. Britt

+HYMN OF PRAISE 323

How Great Thou Art

HOW GREAT THOU ART

✠ ✠ ✠

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Dr. Gilliam

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.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Dr. Linda Alexander

Today we thank God for the gift of mothers and mothering around the world.

As one whom a mother comforts, so I will comfort you. (Isaiah 66:13)

Gentle, patient God, thank You for Your tender care.

But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother;

like a weaned child I am content. (Psalm 131:2)

Protecting, embracing God, thank You for Your nurturing care.

How often have I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings... (Matthew 23:37)

Comforting, warmhearted God, thank You for Your gentle care.

God was like an eagle hovering over its nest, overshadowing its young,

Then spreading its wings, lifting them into the air, teaching them to fly. (Deuteronomy 32:11)

Ever present, sustaining God, thank You for Your enduring care.

I have cared for you since you were born. Yes, I carried you before you were born. (Isaiah 46:3)

Sustaining, all sufficient God, thank You for Your satisfying care.

I will be your God throughout your lifetime—until your hair is white with age.

I made you, and I will care for you. I will carry you along and save you. (Isaiah 46:4)

Faithful, providing God, thank You for mothers and their love.

Everlasting and eternal One, thank You for Your mothering love.

Amen and Amen.

+HYMN 341

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

✠ ✠ ✠

+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Mrs. Jessica Brinkley

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 14:15-21

Rev. Thompson

In Pew Bible, page 133 of New Testament

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



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

Savior, Teach Me Day By Day

HENDON

Savior, Teach Me Day By Day

Jane E. Leeson

YARBROUGH

1. Sav - ior, teach me day by day love's sweet
 2. With a child's glad heart of love at Thy
 3. Teach me thus Thy steps to trace, strong to
 4. Thus may I re - joice to show that I

les - son to o - bey; sweet - er les - son can - not
 bid - ding may I move, prompt to serve and fol - low
 fol - low in Thy grace, learn - ing how to love from
 feel the love I owe; sing - ing, till Thy face I

be lov - ing Him who first loved me. Lord, I
 Thee, lov - ing Him who first loved me.
 Thee, lov - ing Him who first loved me.
 see lov - ing Him who first loved me.

Savior, Teach Me Day By Day, p. 2

give my life to Thee, Thine for - ev - er - more to
be. Lord, I give my life to Thee, Thine for -
ev - er - more to be.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'give my life to Thee, Thine for - ev - er - more to be. Lord, I give my life to Thee, Thine for - ev - er - more to be.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end of the third line.

+BENEDICTION

+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 Iris Bazemore by her children, David, Dennis, Debbie, Diane, and their families.

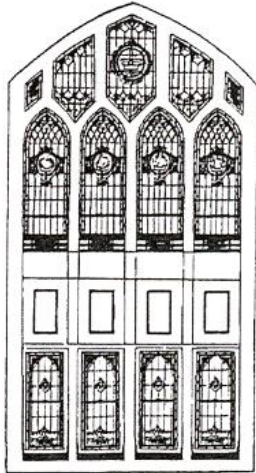
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

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

May 14, 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 6th Sunday of Easter as we continue our journey through Eastertide which concludes with Ascension Sunday on May 21, 2023. The following Sunday, May 28, we celebrate the Day of Pentecost, also called the Birthday of the Church.

✠ 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

✠ Prayer Prompt for The Gathering Place Ministries

When the Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) ministry was flourishing, a dream for a Christian Men's Job Corp (CMJC) began to take shape. Now that Woody and Beverly Baker are onsite partnering with CWJC, that dream is closer to becoming reality. Please pray for their efforts to start a CMJC ministry, and pray that God would pull together the volunteers and resources that are needed.

✠ 250th Anniversary of *Amazing Grace* Concert | May 21, 2023 | 3:00 PM

The year 2023 marks the 250th anniversary of the hymn, "Amazing Grace." For two and a half centuries John Newton's moving lyrics have stirred our hearts and given us a means to give thanks and praise to God for the grace we know through our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

On Sunday, May 21 at 3:00 PM, our Music Ministry will present a concert in celebration of this anniversary. The Sanctuary Choir, the Vocal Ensemble, and Chairio will be singing. The congregation gets to sing too. Following the concert, a strawberry dessert reception will be held in the fellowship hall.

✦ **High School Baccalaureate 2023 | Sunday, May 21, 2023**

We will honor our high school graduates during the 11:00 AM worship service. They are John Boyd, Colby Hauser, and Leah Woodard. A luncheon for the graduates and their families will follow.

✦ **Vacation Bible School 2023 | July 24-27**

4:45 PM-7:45 PM | Age 3—Completed Grade 5

✦ **This Week's Calendar**

Sunday, May 14 | *The 6th Sunday of Easter*

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

No Chairo Rehearsal

Monday, May 15

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting

Tuesday, May 16

7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting

Wednesday, May 17

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

Friday, May 19

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

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