



The Worship of God ✠ May 28, 2023 ✠ Pentecost Sunday

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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The First Baptist Church of Ahoskie is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship congregation.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

May 28, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

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

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PASTORAL SENTENCES

Dr. Gilliam

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. Victoria Outlaw & Miss Peyton Outlaw, Acolytes

THE PENTECOST STORY Acts 2:1-21

Mrs. Jayne Frei

In Pew Bible, pages 144 & 145 of New Testament

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

+HYMN OF PRAISE 229 *Let Every Christian Pray*

LAUDES DOMINI

✠ ✠ ✠

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Rev. Anita 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.

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CALL TO PRAYER – Hymn 234 *Spirit of the Living God* IVERSON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Thompson

PRAYER RESPONSE – Hymn 234 *Spirit of the Living God* IVERSON

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+LITANY FOR THE OFFERING Mr. Andy Woodard

Holy God, on this Pentecost Sunday,
we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the birthday of Your church.

**As the Spirit moves in our midst,
may it inspire us towards generosity,
and fire us with a passion to serve You well.**

We ask this in the name of the Christ,
whose promise of the Spirit's coming
was fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost.

Amen.

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.

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NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 17:11-19 Dr. Gilliam

In Pew Bible, page 98 of New Testament

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

SERMON *Thank You* 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 377

There Is a Redeemer

GREEN

+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.

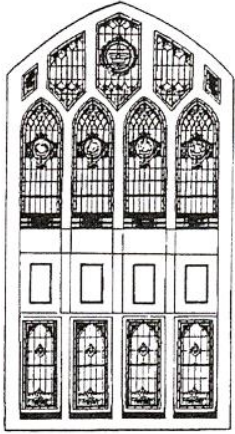
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Gilliam III
Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Leah Newsome
Pianist



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

May 28, 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 the church begins a new season, ushered in by Pentecost Sunday. It is a day to celebrate hope, a hope evoked by the knowledge that God, through His Holy Spirit, is at work among His people. It is a celebration of newness, of recreation, of renewal of purpose, mission, and calling as God's people. It is a celebration of God's ongoing work in the world. Yet, it is also a recognition that His work is done through His people as He pours out His presence upon them.

The word "Pentecost" means "fiftieth" and refers to the fiftieth day. In most Christian traditions, Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days following Easter Sunday. The color for Pentecost Sunday is red, symbolizing both the fire of Pentecost as well as the apostles and early followers of Jesus who were gathered in the Upper Room for the empowerment from God to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world.

✠ 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

✠ Pastoral Transition

On Sunday, May 21, 2023, our pastor, Paul Gilliam, accepted a call to serve as pastor of Winter Park Baptist Church in Wilmington, NC. We rejoice with Dr. Gilliam in this new ministry opportunity, and pray that the "marriage" of pastor and people will be a blessed one.

We give thanks for Dr. Gilliam's ministry with us since February 1, 2017, and offer our prayers for him, Lou Ann, and Matty Grace as they make Wilmington their new home.

✦ Vacation Bible School 2023 | July 24-27

4:45 PM-7:45 PM | Age 3 (by 8/31/21) through Completed Grade 5

Our Children's Ministry Council has begun recruiting leaders for this summer's Vacation Bible School. The leadership needs are:

- ♦ Small Group Leader – *in charge of a particular age group for the evening.*
- ♦ Bible Story Leader – *one for Age 3 – K, and one for Grades 1-5.*
- ♦ Recreation Leader – *one for Age 3 – K, and one for Grades 1-5.*
- ♦ Crafts/Activities Leader – *one for Age 3 – K, and one for Grades 1-5.*
- ♦ Meal Provider Teams – *one team for each evening.*
- ♦ Decorators

If you would like to volunteer, please speak with a Children's Ministry Council member, or contact Rev. Thompson. Council members are Elizabeth Davis, Anna Dawson, J.C. Doughtie, Claire Harrell, Suzanne Newbern, and Lee Taylor Rose.

✦ This Week's Calendar

Sunday, May 28 | *Pentecost Sunday*

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

Monday, May 29 | *Memorial Day National Holiday*

Church Offices Closed

Wednesday, May 31

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

Friday, June 2

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

Sunday, June 4 | *Trinity Sunday*

9:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship with Communion

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