



The Worship of God ✦ July 30, 2023 ✦ The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

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

July 30, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The 9th Sunday after Pentecost*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Mr. Brayden Conboy

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PIANO PRELUDE

Amazing Grace

Sophia Byrd

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Mr. Dempsey Pierce & Miss Stuart Pierce, Acolytes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Anita Thompson

Holy God, You call Your people to prayer and praise in many ways.
This day, bring us together just as You called the people of Israel
to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.

God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.

Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to You.
As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures—
faith, hope, and love.

God of grace, give us this day our daily bread.

All life is created and nourished by you!
May we grow into new ways of understanding and service,
reflecting the ways in which we have been fed by Your holy manna.

Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.

INTROIT

Holy Manna
The Sanctuary Choir

Joel Raney

INVOCATION

Miss Sophia Byrd

+HYMN OF PRAISE 366 *O God Beyond All Praising*

THAXTED

✠ ✠ ✠

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Rev. 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.**

✠ ✠ ✠

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 4:10-12
In Pew Bible, pages 63 of Old Testament

Mr. Pierce

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Thompson

Prayer Response: Lord, in Your mercy, **forgive us.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Thompson

+HYMN 477

We Are Called to Be God's People

AUSTRIAN HYMN

✠ ✠ ✠

+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Miss Pierce

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY – Hymn 705

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

✠ ✠ ✠

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 9:9-13
In Pew Bible, page 10 of New Testament

Mr. Conboy

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

SERMON

Perspectives.

Mr. Conboy

✠ ✠ ✠

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 494 *Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord*

LANGLEY

✠ ✠ ✠

+BENEDICTION

Mr. Conboy

+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

PIANO 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 Bill Arrington by Carolyn Arrington and their children.

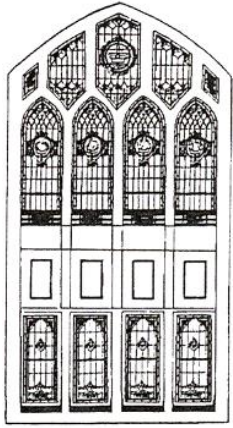
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Mr. Brayden Conboy
CBF Student Church Summer Intern

Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Temporary Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Leah Newsome
Music Associate/Pianist



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

July 30, 2023

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✠ Worship Notes

♦ **Church Season** ~ *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 in the early days of the season called "Ordinary Time." Rather than meaning "common" or "mundane," this term comes from the word "ordinal," which simply means counted time (First Sunday after Pentecost, etc.). Counted time after Pentecost always begins with Trinity Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost) and ends with Christ the King Sunday (last Sunday before the beginning of Advent).

The Sundays of Ordinary Time after Pentecost are used to focus on various aspects of the Faith, especially the mission of the church in the world. The color for Ordinary Time is green which is traditionally associated with new life and growth.

♦ Childcare During Worship

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

Ages 1 & 2: Jenni Byrd & Nancy Freeman

Ages 3 & 4: Jamie Burns & Betty Cooper

Kindergarten: Bill & Debbie Magette

✠ Looking Ahead

♦ Wednesday, August 16

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsals resume.

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble rehearsals resume.

♦ Wednesday, August 23

5:15 PM Children's Music & Missions resume.

♦ Sunday, August 27

9:45 PM Sunday School promotion for children & youth.

11:00 AM Bible Presentations: Grades 1 & 6 students, and
Blessing of the Backpacks for all students.

✠ Vacation Bible School 2023 | Thank You!

For four wonderful nights our building was filled with approximately 60 children, youth, and adults as we immersed ourselves in Bible stories about changemakers who helped change the world “in the Jesus way.”

- ◆ Day 1: *Changemakers Ask Questions* | John 3:1 – 17, Nicodemus
- ◆ Day 2: *Changemakers Work Together to Solve Problems* | Mark 2:1 – 12, Five Friends
- ◆ Day 3: *Changemakers Respond to the Needs of Others* | Acts 2:42 – 47, Early Church
- ◆ Day 4: *Changemakers Build Bridges* | Acts 10, Peter and Cornelius

Thank you, volunteers, for the many ways you contributed to our success. Thank you, parents, for encouraging and involving your children. And thank you, children, for engaging so beautifully and enthusiastically in this year’s VBS. Keep working to change the world “in the Jesus way.”

✠ CBF National Student.Church | Brayden Conboy, FBCA Intern

We’ve been pleased to have Brayden Conboy serving with us this summer as our Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Student.Church Intern. This internship is for students who are interested in a deeper experience of church life or pursuing a call to ministry.

Brayden has engaged with our church in a variety of ways. He has worked in the church office, participated in staff meetings, led in worship and preached, attended deacons’ meetings, chaperoned Passport Kids Camp, taught Sunday School, and served as the VBS recreation leader for grades 1-5. The internship ends with Selah Vie, a retreat for interns, college and seminary students, August 1-4, on St. Simons Island, GA. Thank you, Brayden, for ministering so beautifully with us this summer!

✠ Nominating Committee

Meets today at 2:00 PM in Room 103.

✠ Worship Leaders

We love to involve everyone who is willing in Sunday morning worship leadership. Though we know many who love to serve in this way, your church staff is wondering who else might be interested. We don’t want to leave anyone out! So, if you are interested, please contact Jessica Pyle, Communications Coordinator, in the church office.

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