

For the **LORD**  
your God  
is bringing you  
into a **good land...**  
of **wheat** and **barley**,  
of **vines** and **fig trees**  
and **pomegranates**,  
...of **olive trees** and **honey...**  
... eat your fill and  
**bless the**  
**LORD**  
your God...

DEUTERONOMY 8:7-10

The Worship of God ✠ September 3, 2023 ✠ The 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

## THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

312 West Main Street ♦ Post Office Box 649 ♦ Ahoskie, North Carolina 27910  
[www.fbcahoskie.org](http://www.fbcahoskie.org) ♦ (252) 332-4003 ♦ [office@fbcahoskie.org](mailto:office@fbcahoskie.org)

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

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 3, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PIANO PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Miss Lily Ann Brinkley & Mr. Bryant Brinkley, Acolytes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Miss Ashlee' Perry

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried: **Alleluia!**

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,  
as worship moved us to a more profound: **Alleluia!**

So has the Church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,  
borne witness to the truth in every tongue: **Alleluia!**

And did not Jesus sing a Psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light?  
Then let us sing, for whom He won the fight: **Alleluia!**

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always: **Alleluia!**

INTROIT

*Alleluia*  
The Sanctuary Choir

arr. Otis Skillings

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Miss Perry

+HYMN OF PRAISE 306

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

✠ ✠ ✠

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.**

✠ ✠ ✠

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON      Philippians 4:6-7      Mrs. Mary Ann Umphlett  
In Pew Bible, page 242 of New Testament

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE      Rev. Thompson

+HYMN 409      *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*      CONVERSE

✠ ✠ ✠

+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING      Mrs. Umphlett

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.

✠ ✠ ✠

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON      Deuteronomy 8:1-10      Dr. Bazemore  
In Pew Bible, pages 206 & 207 of Old Testament

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

SERMON      *Wilderness 101 – Lessons Learned*      Dr. Bazemore

✠ ✠ ✠

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 496      *Footsteps of Jesus*      FOOTSTEPS

+BENEDICTION      Dr. Bazemore

+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 by Lee & Lou Wilson.*

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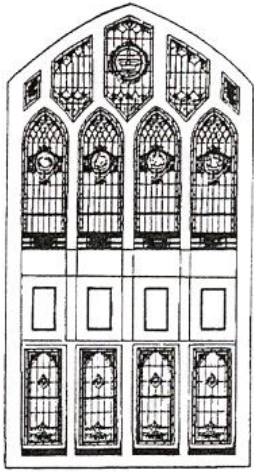
### OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Anita D. Thompson  
*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Dennis N. Bazemore  
*Interim Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Mrs. Leah Newsome  
*Music Associate/Pianist*



# A Window on the Weeks Ahead

September 3, 2023

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

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## ✠ Worship Notes

◆ **New Interim Pastor** – Today, the Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore begins his ministry with us as Interim Pastor. Dr. Bazemore is a native of Ahoskie who was discipled in the Christian faith right here at FBCA. He earned a Bachelor's degree from Campbell University, a Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in

Pennsylvania. He returned to Campbell University in 2003 to head the Office of Student Life. He retired in the summer of 2022, and with his wife, Linda, moved back to Ahoskie.

## ✠ Childcare During Worship

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

Ages 1 & 2: Bland & Nancy Baker

Ages 3 & 4: Brian & Victoria Outlaw

Kindergarten: Landis & Will Chamblee

## ✠ Welcome New Member

On Sunday, August 27, 2023, we welcomed Bennett Pierce to our church membership by Profession of Faith. Bennett is the son of Brent and Kari Pierce, and the brother of Henry and Lucy. We look forward to his baptism in the near future.

## ✠ Women's Bible Study | September 14, 2023 | 10:30 AM

A Women's Bible Study will begin on September 14, 2023, at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will start with "Bad Girls of the Bible," by Liz Curtis Higgs. Meetings will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays. Invite your friends—it's not just for FBCA women! Questions? Contact Jayne Frei at (757) 478-6194.

## ✠ Blessing of the Backpacks Update

Last Sunday, August 27, 2023, worshipers received a bookmark on which are listed the names of our PreK-3 through Grade 12 students. As part of our Blessing of the Backpacks, we wanted everyone child to be prayed for by name. Regretfully, we discovered we omitted four of our Pre-K 3 children. We're thankful for those who let us know about the omission and offer our apology to the parents. Please add the following names to the list of Pre-K-3 students on your bookmark: Avalyn Blanchard, Ryleigh Morris, Ruth Perry, and Hudson Rose. And if you notice that someone's name is missing, please let us know.

## ✠ Youth Group News

On September 1, 2023, Brayden Conboy will begin his ministry with us as part-time Youth Minister. He invites all students in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades to join him for a supper meeting on Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 5:30 PM, at the home of Jamie & Rick Burns, 140 Forest Dr., Ahoskie. Contact Jamie with questions at (252) 332-9461.

## ✘ Results for August 30, 2023, Church Conference

*The church membership unanimously called the Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore to serve as our Interim Pastor. His tenure begins September 1, 2023. We also approved the deacons' recommendation for the following persons to serve on the Pastor Search Committee: Don Joyner, Claudia Morris, Ashlee' Perry, Mary Page Pierce, Chuck Revelle, Cheryl Slachta, Jim Wiggins, and Lee Wilson. Now . . . let's commit to pray for all these people as they lead us through this interim period.*

## ✘ 2023-2024 Nominating Committee Report Corrections

*The Nominating Committee Report was approved by a church vote on Sunday, August 27, 2023. Please make the following corrections in your report booklet and let us know of any additional corrections that are needed.*

Audio & Visual Services: *add Brandon Zoch*

Ushers & Greeters: *remove Spencer Matthews, add Larry Matthews*

## ✘ WMU Group 2 Meeting

*In September only, WMU Group 2 will meet on the second Tuesday, September 12, 2023.*

## ✘ Looking Ahead

### ◆ Monday, September 4

*Church offices closed for the Labor Day holiday.*

### ◆ Tuesday, September 5

*10:00 AM WMU Group 4*

### ◆ Wednesday, September 6

*10:30 AM Ahoskie Garden Club, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen*

*2:30 PM Ahoskie Woman's Club Board Meeting, Library*

*7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal*

*8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal*

### ◆ Friday, September 8

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

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