



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The Worship of God ✠ October 1, 2023 ✠ The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

October 1, 2023 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: the 18th Sunday after Pentecost*
World Communion Sunday

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Rev. Anita Thompson

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mrs. Nancy Freeman

Based on Philippians 2:1-5, 13a

If then there is any encouragement in Christ,

any consolation from love,

any sharing in the Spirit,

any compassion and sympathy,

make our joy complete:

be of the same mind,

having the same love,

being in full accord and of one mind.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,

in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

Let each of us look not to our own good,

but take notice of what is good for others, too.

Let the same mind be in us that is in Christ Jesus.

For it is God who is at work in us.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Mrs. Freeman

+ANTHEM OF PRAISE

Holy Is the Lord

Cloniger & Clydesdale

The Sanctuary Choir & Congregation

The congregation is invited to sing the bold text two times as directed.

Holy is He and great is His glory; holy is He and worthy of our praise.

I stand in His presence amazed and crown Him with worship and praise.

Holy is He.

Who pardons my iniquities, who heals me from within?

Who lifts my fallen life and sets me on my feet again?

Who leads me like a Shepherd when I've gone astray?

My Lord, my God, my Jesus, the One I praise today!

*Who hears me in my loneliness, who finds me when I hide?
Who knocks outside my broken heart 'til I let Him inside?
Whose life deserves the honor laid before His throne?
My Lord, my God, my Jesus, my Savior and my own!*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity!**

Holy is He! Amen!

✠ ✠ ✠

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.**

✠ ✠ ✠

EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 2:1-11

Mr. Don Joyner

In Pew Bible, page 240 & 241 of New Testament

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ms. Betty Joyner, Mr. Joyner & Rev. Thompson

**. . . Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And
forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Thompson

+HYMN 697

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

✠ ✠ ✠

+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Ms. Betty Joyner

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.



GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:16-17

Ms. B. Joyner

In Pew Bible, page 114 of New Testament

**God so loved the world that He gave His only Son,
so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish
but may have eternal life.**

**Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world
but in order that the world might be saved through Him.**

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

HOMILY

It's a Small World After All

Rev. Thompson

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Thompson



THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn 461

Let Us Break Bread Together

BREAK BREAD

The Bread – Stanza 1

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees,
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

The Cup – Stanza 2

Let us drink the cup together on our knees,
Let us drink the cup together on our knees,
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Our Praise – Stanza 3

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees,
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

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 519 *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* ASH GROVE

+BENEDICTION Rev. Thompson

+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.

POSTLUDE

Please be seated for the postlude.

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

Today's altar flowers are given by Sharon & Kenny Roope, and Tracy & Bryant Lewis, to the glory of God, and in loving memory of E.L. Holloman, Ada Fornes, Glenda Byrd and Carrie Leigh Askew.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

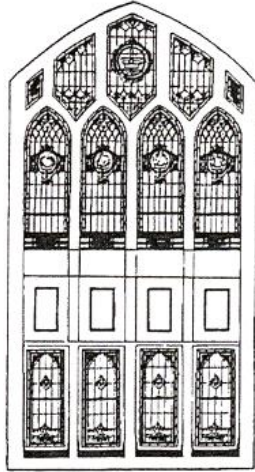
Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Dennis N. Bazemore
Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mr. Brayden Conboy
Youth Minister

Mrs. Leah Newsome
Music Associate/Pianist



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

October 1, 2023

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✠ Worship Notes

♦ **World Communion Sunday** – *Annually, on the first Sunday of October, we join other Christian churches around the world to celebrate our unity in Christ. World Communion Sunday began at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1933. The Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr and his congregation sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of Christian churches, regardless of denomination or location.*

♦ **Ministers Away Today** – *Our Interim Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Dennis Bazemore, is the Homecoming preacher today at Grove Park Baptist Church in Clinton, NC. Our Youth Minister, Brayden Conboy, is on the Chowan University Swim Team; they had a meet in Tennessee this weekend.*

✠ 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

✠ Benevolence Offering Received Today

On the first Sunday of every month, we receive an offering for our Benevolence Ministry which helps support individuals and families in our community. If you'd like to participate, please place your offering in one of the small brown baskets at each sanctuary exit.

✠ Women's Bible Study | 2nd & 4th Thursdays | 10:30 AM

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

✠ Fall Picnic | October 15, 2023

The deacons will host a picnic for the entire church family on Sunday, October 15, 2023. Please gather in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 PM.

✘ Wednesday Night Schedule | Beginning October 11, 2023

5:15—6:15 PM •Children's Music & Missions

•Prayer Meeting—Bible Study for Adults & Youth (Grades 6-12)

6:15—7:00 PM Meal is served.

7:00—8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

8:00—8:45 PM Vocal Ensemble

Meal Costs: Adults \$8 Children (Ages 3-12) \$4

Please note the revised schedule. Meal reservations are required. They may be made on a weekly or permanent basis. To make your reservation, place each name on the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the second floor hallway or call the church office at (252) 332-4003.

✘ This Week

♦ Monday, October 2

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting

5:45 PM Girl Scouts

♦ Tuesday, October 3

10:00 AM WMU Group 4

4:00 PM 2024 Budget Requests Due to Office

♦ Wednesday, October 4

10:30 AM Ahoskie Garden Club

5:15 PM Children's Music & Missions

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

✘ Looking Ahead

♦ Monday, October 16

7:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

♦ Tuesday, October 17

7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting

♦ Sunday, October 29

11:00 AM Children's Sabbath

6:00 PM Trunk or Treat

♦ Sunday, December 17

11:00 AM Christmas Cantata

6:00 PM Christmas Cantata

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