



The Worship of God ✦ December 24, 2023 ✦ Christmas Eve

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

312 W. Main St. ♦ 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

December 24, 2023 ✠ 5:00 PM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: Christmas Eve*

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Dennis Bazemore

We gather in the darkness of evening to celebrate the newborn Light.

With family and friends we worship and adore the Christ-child.

With Mary we will ponder these things in our hearts.

With Joseph we will give thanks to the Lord for God's faithful love.

So let us lift up our hearts in thanksgiving, for a child, *the* Child, has been born!

O come, let us adore Him—

The Child whose coming was announced by the prophets.

O come, let us adore Him—

The Child whose message was proclaimed by the angels.

O come, let us adore Him—

The Child whose glory was hailed by the shepherds.

O come, let us adore Him—

Yes! Let us *all* adore Him, for the Child is, indeed, Christ Jesus, our Lord.

+CAROL 103

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Stanza 1

ADESTE FIDELIS

THE FIRST LESSON

John 1:1-5, 14

Miss Reagan Zoch

Lighting the Christ Candle

A candle burns, the sign of God's presence.

God amongst us, born as one of us,

may we live in the light of Your presence,

the Light who gives life to all.

+HYMN 156

Shine, Jesus, Shine
Stanzas 1 & 3

SHINE

✠ ✠ ✠

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-5

Miss Avery Byrum

The Journey to Bethlehem

SOLO

How Far Is It to Bethlehem?
Anita Thompson, Soloist

Chesterton/Rossetti/Daniels

❖ ❖ ❖

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:6-7
Born in a Manger

Mr. Dempsey Pierce

CAROL 110

Away in a Manger
Stanza 1

MUELLER

❖ ❖ ❖

THE FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16
The Angels' Announcement to the Shepherds

Dr. Claudia Morris

CAROL 125

Angels We Have Heard on High
Stanza 1

GLORIA

❖ ❖ ❖

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:17-20
The Shepherd's Departure

Mrs. Kari Pierce

CAROL 124

The First Nowell
Stanza 1

THE FIRST NOWELL

❖ ❖ ❖

THE SIXTH LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
A Child Has Been Born for Us

Mr. Chuck Revelle

CAROL 139

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Stanza 1

W ZLOBIE LEZY

❖ ❖ ❖

THE CHRISTMAS LETTER

Dr. Dennis Bazemore

CAROL 148

What Child Is This
Stanza 1

GREENSLEEVES

THE LORD'S SUPPER

+CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

During the singing of the carol, you will be invited to receive the light from the Christ Candle and share it with those around you.

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child! Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, darkness flies, all is light;
Shepherds hear the angels sing, "Alleluia! Hail the King!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

✠ ✠ ✠

*May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ child.
And may Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.
Amen.*

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Associate Pastor

Dr. Dennis N. Bazemore
Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Leah Newsome
Pianist