



The Worship of God ✠ January 14, 2024 ✠ The Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

January 14, 2024 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The Second Sunday after Epiphany*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Dr. Dennis Bazemore

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mrs. Jamie Burns

New Testament Lesson

1 John 1:5-7

In Pew Bible, pages 289 and 290 of New Testament

This is the word of God for the people of God;

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Shine on Us

arr. Gary Rhodes

The Vocal Ensemble

*Lord, let Your light, light of Your face shine on us.
That we may be saved,
that we may have life to find our way in the darkest night.
Let Your light shine on us.*

*Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand fall on us.
That we may be saved,
that we may have life to find our way in the darkest night.
Let Your grace fall on us.*

*Lord, let Your love, love with no end come over us.
That we may be saved,
that we may have life to find our way in the darkest night.
Let Your love come over us.*

- Deborah D. Smith and Michael W. Smith

+HYMN OF PRAISE 297

Here I Am to Worship

HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

✠ ✠ ✠

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.**



+PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Mrs. Burns

OFFERTORY

+OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Hymn 156

Shine, Jesus, Shine – Stanza 1

SHINE

Lord, the light of Your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world shine upon us, set us free by the truth You now bring us;
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joshua 4:19-24

Dr. Bazemore

In Pew Bible, pages 243 and 244 of Old Testament

This is the word of God for the people of God;

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What Does All This Mean?

Dr. Bazemore

THE LORD'S SUPPER

During the Lord's Supper, we will sing the following stanzas between the receiving of the elements.

The Bread – Jesus, at Your holy table, may our hearts united be.

Bind us with Your grace and presence that redeem and set us free.
Crucify our pride and hatred, light the path on which we walk,
Teach us how to love each other, in the way that You have taught.

The Cup – Christ, remind us of Your passion, of Your precious life outpoured,
of the love which none can fathom, and our vict'ry evermore.

Bread of heaven, wine of promise, feed us with Your holy Word.
Nourish us with Your strong presence, risen Savior, only Lord.



INVITATION

+HYMN OF RESPONSE

BEACH SPRING

Lord, I lay my life before You, here, I give to You my all.
I will follow where You lead me; I have heard Your Spirit call.
I will live my life in service as a mirror of Your grace –
Living always in Your presence, looking always toward Your face.

Lift your hearts and raise your voices, celebrate this wondrous love.
Join the chorus with all Christians, and with saints who live above.
Silent lips now sing with gladness, blinded eyes are filled with sight.
Jesus' love has pierced our darkness, brough us home to peace and light.

+BENEDICTION

Dr. Bazemore

POSTLUDE

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

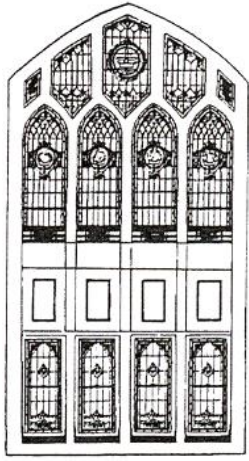
Today's altar flowers are given by Carroll Thompson and Anita Thompson, to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Ella Gray White Thompson who was born on January 13, 1937.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Anita D. Thompson
Associate Pastor

Dr. Dennis N. Bazemore
Interim Pastor
Mrs. Leah Newsome
Pianist

Rev. Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

✦ 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.

We are currently into the second week of the Season of Epiphany which will climax on February 11, 2024, as we observe the Transfiguration of Christ (Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36). The following Wednesday we begin the Season of Lent, gathering for a traditional Ash Wednesday worship service.

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

Ages 1 & 2: Joyce Leary and Taylor F. Rose
Ages 3 & 4: David and Elizabeth Davis
Kindergarten: Melanie Byrum and Winnie Matthews

✦ Pray for Our Pastor Search Committee

Don Joyner, Claudia Morris, Ashlee Perry, Mary Page Pierce, Chuck Revelle, Cheryl Slachta, Jim Wiggins, and Lee Wilson.

✦ Wednesday Night Meals | January 17, 2024

We have begun a new standing reservation list for 2024. To make your reservation...

- ♦ Sign up on the bulletin board in the second-floor hallway, or
- ♦ Respond to the Facebook post, or
- ♦ Call the church office.

Include the total number of adults and children, and specify if your reservation is standing or weekly. Reservations and cancellations are due by noon on Tuesday. Hospitality Committee members, please remember to make your reservations.

Menu: Baked chicken, rice, marinated carrots, seasoned green beans, biscuits, apple pie, and tea or water.

Meal Costs: Adults \$8 Children (12 and under) \$4

✦ Chili Cook-off | Sunday, January 21, 2024 | 5:00 PM

Enter your best chili recipe! If you are providing chili for the cook-off, please call the church office to let us know.

✦ Valentine's Banquet | Saturday, February 10, 2024 | 6:00 PM

Adult members of First Baptist Church are invited to attend our Valentine's Banquet. The cost is \$5.00 per adult and the meal will include Chicken Parmesan with Spaghetti, tossed salad, bread, red velvet cake and tea or water. Childcare will be provided. Reservations must be made by noon on February 6.

✂ WMU Churchwide Mission Project

FBCA is collecting the following items for the three assisted living/rehab centers in our association through the end of February:

- Toothpaste • Tissues • Body Wash • After Shave • Lotion • Cologne/Perfume
- Hand Soap • Mouthwash • Paper Towels • Band-Aids • Clothes • Dawn Dish Soap
- Clothes Detergent • Bath Towels, Hand Towels, Bath Cloths (white only)
- Decorations (for doors & rooms) • Cleaning Supplies (bleach, Lysol, Windex, Clorox wipes)
- Drinks (apple/grape juice, Gatorade, ginger ale, etc.)
- Individually Wrapped Snacks (chips, cakes, cookies, chocolates, soft mints, please include sugar free options)

✂ This Week

♦ Monday, January 15, 2024

3:00 PM Staff Meeting

5:45 PM Girl Scouts, Jenni Byrd, Leader

7:00 PM Building & Grounds Committee, Fellowship Hall

♦ Tuesday, January 16

7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting

♦ Wednesday, January 17

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Ahoskie Woman's Club, Fellowship Hall

5:15 PM •Children's Music & Missions

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

6:15 PM Supper

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal

♦ Friday, January 19

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