

The Worship of God ✠ December 1, 2024  
The First Sunday of Advent

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

December 1, 2024 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The First Sunday of Advent*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Dr. Dennis Bazemore

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PIANO PRELUDE

Mrs. Leah Newsome

INVOCATION

Dr. Greg Barner

+HYMNS OF PRAISE

87 *Arise, Your Light Is Come*  
120 *Emmanuel*

FESTAL SONG  
EMMANUEL

LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE

Mr. Alex, Mrs. Sarah Grace, Mr. Corbett & Mr. Wells,  
Britton Family

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Hope. Our hope is in God and His son, Jesus Christ. He is the One God has used to save and redeem His people.

**We live in a world where plowshares are beaten into swords, school aged children carry guns, and we feel the threat of poverty and an uncertain future - a world much like the one to which the prophet Isaiah declared, "hope in the Lord." There is great reason for our hope, he declares!**

And so today, we light this candle to remind us that Jesus is our only hope. He is the hope of the world. We thank God for the promises He has made to us and for the light He has brought into the world.

**O God of Hope, Emmanuel, God with us - we pray that You will send your light into our hearts. Live in us, Lord, and help us to live in You. Transform us by the power of your Holy Spirit so our worship and our lives are ready for the day of your final appearing.**

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS, Hymn 80

BOUGH

*Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*



CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING

Dr. Bazemore

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

Mark 1:1-3

Dr. Tim Frei

In Pew Bible, page 42 of New Testament

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

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Almighty God*

Nickel

*“Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ your only Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.”*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:1-7

Dr. Bazemore

In Pew Bible, pages 780 & 781 of Old Testament

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

**Thanks be to God.**

+HYMN 83

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dr. Frei

PIANO OFFERTORY

Mrs. Newsome

+ADVENT DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

*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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.*



SERMON

*A Thrill of Hope in These Times*

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 373

VENI EMMANUEL

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*



+BENEDICTION

+CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

*As we leave, let us remember that we do not leave the church. We leave as the church to go into the world and make disciples . . . in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

POSTLUDE

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

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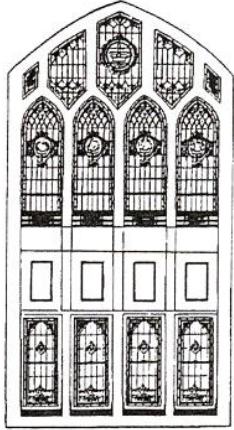
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Dr. Dennis N. Bazemore  
*Interim Pastor*

Dr. Greg Barmer  
*Interim Minister of Music*

Dr. Jesse J. Croom  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Mrs. Leah Newsome  
*Pianist*



# A Window on the Weeks Ahead

December 1, 2024

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

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## ✘ Worship Notes

◆ **Worship Childcare** – We give thanks for those caring for our young ones today while we worship:

Ages 1 & 2: Bland & Nancy Baker

Ages 3 & 4: Heather & William Alexander

Kindergarten: Lyndsay & Heath Britt

## ✘ 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.

## ✘ Young Adult Sunday School Class Angel Tree Christmas Project

In the first phase of this Christmas project, we need suggestions of men, women, or children who might benefit from Angel Tree gifts. If YOU could provide this info for us, it would be most helpful in launching this Christmas effort. We need a first name and vital info like age, sex, real needs, special desires and always SIZES where applicable. Contact info will be needed to make sure the gifts arrive (Cell # or email). Once we have a working list we will provide you with more info, set up the tree, adorn it with angels and start sharing the love. Thank you for helping us bless others as we have been blessed.

Andy: txcapper@yahoo.com | Jenni: jennibyrd@hotmail.com | Penny: pennyrose68@gmail.com

## ✘ Deacon Confirmation & 2025 Proposed Budget Vote | December 8

On Sunday, December 8, 2024, prior to the beginning of worship service, church members have the opportunity to confirm the top five deacon nominees. In addition, church members will vote on the 2025 Proposed Church Budget.

## ✘ Global Missions Offering Ingathering | Sunday, December 8, 2024

On December 8, 2025, we will begin to receive the annual Global Missions Offering. 100% of your gifts support the long-term presence of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries serving in the United States and around the world. This year's goal is \$5,000 and will be collected through the end of March 2025.

## ✘ Children's Music & Missions Last Meeting | December 11, 2024

❖ **Alleluia: A Christmas Festival | December 15 | 5:00 PM**  
*Accompanied by an Orchestra of ECU Music Students*

*Following our Christmas Concert, we will continue our tradition of sharing your favorite Christmas cookies and treats as sweet additions to our reception in Fellowship Hall.*

❖ **Churchwide Christmas Breakfast | No Reservations Required**  
**Sunday, December 22 | Fellowship Hall | 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM**

*Please join us for a Christmas breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon and Sausage, Southern Style Creamy Grits, Hot Biscuits and Sweet Rolls, Assorted Fruit, Juice, Coffee, and Water.*

❖ **Operation Inasmuch Christmas Day Lunch**  
**December 25, 2024 | The Gathering Place | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

*We are once again pleased to partner with other area churches to provide a free, delicious, hot meal, and fellowship for anyone in our community. The responsibilities of FBCA include cooking and slicing a turkey, preparing a pan of dressing (roaster pan size), and 14 cakes dessert. Each dessert should feed approximately fifteen people. If you'd like to volunteer for any of the listed items, please sign up on the bulletin board on the 2nd floor hallway. All food items are to be at The Gathering Place by 10:00 AM on Christmas Day. If items need to be delivered prior to that day, or if you'd like to assist with set up, serving, or delivery of meals to the homebound, please contact Pat Byrd at (252) 209-4301.*