



The Worship of God ✠ December 8, 2024
The Second Sunday of Advent

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

December 8, 2024 ✠ 11:00 AM

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

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS Dr. Greg Barner
CHIMING OF THE HOUR Mr. Jordon Martin
PIANO PRELUDE Mrs. Leah Newsome
INVOCATION Dr. Dennis Bazemore
+HYMN OF PRAISE 103 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

Mr. Brian, Mrs. Victoria, Miss Peyton & Mr. Waylon
Outlaw Family

Today is the second Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Peace. Last week we lit the first candle in our Advent wreath, the candle of Hope.

Today it shines again to remind us that Christ was born first in Bethlehem, but will come again to fulfill all of God's promises.

The second candle is the candle of Peace. Jesus said that those who make peace would be called the children of God

We are His children. Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and we say to all the world that He is our only hope for peace.

True peace is like a light shining in a dark place, and Jesus wants us to be His light in the world.

Thank you, Lord, for the peace you bring us. While we wait for your coming, may it make us stronger. May your peace and your hope shine through all our worship, through all our words, and through all our deeds. Amen.

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS, Hymn 80 BOUGH
Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love
Stanzas 1 and 2

✠ ✠ ✠

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 41: 8-10, 20 Mr. Scott Outlaw
In Pew Bible, page 819 of Old Testament

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

+HYMN 114 *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Mr. S. Outlaw

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.*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 1:26-38

Dr. Barmer

In Pew Bible, page 69 of New Testament

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Fear Not

Amy Williams

*It was a night much like any other night. There was a star that shone with wondrous heavenly light. The shepherds feared the sky until they heard the angels cry: "Fear not, for I have good news for you! Fear not, for now your Lord is here! He'll be everything you need and more, Won't you come to Him now and adore."
Today's a day much like any other day. We have our fears and doubts in much the same way. But there's a longing deep within when Jesus whispers once again, "Fear not, for I have good news for you!"*

SERMON

God's Calling is Good News!

Dr. Bazemore

INVITATION

+HYMN 107

ST. LOUIS

O Little Town of Bethlehem



+BENEDICTION

Depart now with the peace of Christ living in your hearts and sharing this peace with all you meet.

We will share this peace of Christ out of compassion for others and not fear.

May the blessings of Christmas make you a blessing to others; may the peace of Christmas pervade all that you do.

May we hear the Call of God and welcome the challenge of discipleship.

We will offer ourselves as God's ministers.

We will go forth in hope, peace, joy, and love as one church.

In the name of Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

+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.

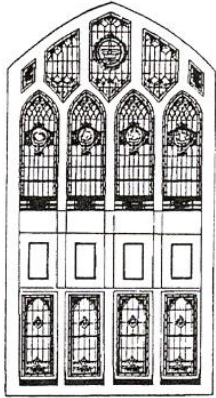
OUR MINISTRY TEAM

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 8, 2024

First Baptist Church of Ahoskie, NC

✦ Worship Notes

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

Ages 1 & 2: Kay Byrd & Taylor F. Rose

Ages 3 & 4: David & Elizabeth Davis

Kindergarten: Lily Ann Brinkley & Winnie Matthews

✦ Deacon Confirmation & 2025 Proposed Budget Vote | Today

Today, church members will 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 | Today

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.

✦ Young Adult Sunday School Class Angel Tree Christmas Project

Our Angel Tree is located on the first floor. When you take an Angel from the tree sign your name and info beside the corresponding number. Prepare to spend a minimum of \$25 on the gifts and remember it is fine to join with someone. Please WRAP and TAG EACH GIFT with the corresponding number! Return gifts to the base of the Angel Tree by December 18th for delivery.

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

✦ Alleluia: A Christmas Festival | December 15, 2024 | 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, 2024 | 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.

✠ Finance Committee Meeting | Monday, December 9, 2024 | 7:00 PM
Room 103 (the Genesis Sunday School Classroom)

✠ Offering Envelopes

As we prepare for the new year, we ask that if you're no longer using the offering envelopes that are mailed to you, please contact our Financial Secretary, Sharon Hill. She is available Monday-Wednesday 8:00- 4:00 PM at the office (252) 332-4003.

✠ 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 or 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.