

The Worship of God ✠ August 10, 2025
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

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

August 10, 2025 ✠ 11:00 AM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS

Dr. Dennis Bazemore

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Mr. Jordan Martin

PIANO PRELUDE

Here I Am to Worship

Victor Lebenske

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE

Mrs. Leslie Lawrence & Mr. Bracy Lawrence, Acolytes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Greg Barmer

Come, beloved of God, and hear the word of the Lord.

The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks, calling all the earth to worship from sunrise to sunset, offering a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

We come with grateful hearts, seeking Him, ready to honor God with praise and service.

We come, Father, trusting what we cannot yet see.

We come in faith, following where you lead, forsaking the temporary, and seeking the eternal.

All is vain, Father, unless your Holy Spirit rules our gathering,

And so we come seeking You, ready to love, to sacrifice, to serve, to worship.

May your glory be magnified among us, filling this place, filling our lives and reshaping us to be more like you!

+HYMN OF PRAISE, 296 *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

HOLY MANNA

INVOCATION

Mrs. Austine Evans

✠ ✠ ✠

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

Psalms 50:1-6; 22-23

Dr. Barmer

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 12: 35-40

Dr. Tim Frei

In Pew Bible, page 91 of New Testament

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

Thanks be to God.

+HYMN 562

Soon and Very Soon

SOON AND VERY SOON

✠ ✠ ✠

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Mrs. Jayne Frei

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Mr. Martin

+ DOXOLOGY, HYMN 705

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen, Amen!

MESSAGE IN SONG

The Sea of Forgetfulness

Mr. Brandon Zoch

Helen Baylor

"I stand before You guilty and unworthy. How can I be forgiven and holy?

And I know I break Your heart, but You promised I could start all over. And all the things I've done,

You place them each and every one into the sea of forgetfulness."

SERMON

Ready for Service

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 OF RESPONSE, 588 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*

EL NATHAN

+BENEDICTION

Dr. Bazemore

+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.

PIANO POSTLUDE

Soon and Very Soon

Jack Schrader

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

Today's altar flowers are given in loving memory of our nephew and cousin, Fletcher Pierce by Mary Page, Walt, Dempsey, Stuart, and Libby Pierce.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

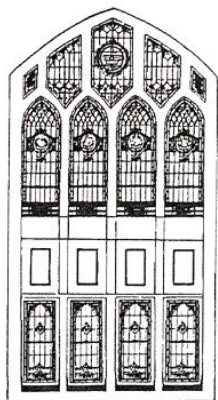
Dr. Dennis N. Bazemore
Interim Pastor

Dr. Greg Barmer
Interim Minister of Music

Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Leah Newsome
Pianist

Mr. Jordan Martin
Organist



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

August 10, 2025

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

✦ Pastor Search Committee Update

The Pastor Search Committee has narrowed its focus to one preferred candidate; however, are not yet at the stage of making a formal recommendation. The Pastor Search Committee has scheduled what is hoped will be a final interview with the preferred candidate later this month. The committee will need time for discussion after the meeting. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the Pastor Search Committee for their unwavering dedication, countless hours of prayer, and tireless work throughout this important process. Your commitment to seeking God's guidance and faithfully leading our church through this journey has been a true blessing. Thank you for serving with such grace, wisdom, and love for our church family. We are sincerely grateful for all you have done. Please continue to be in prayer for the committee and the potential new pastor.

✦ Online Church Directory Training

Sunday, August 17 & August 24 | Fellowship Hall

Following the Morning Worship Service

On Sunday, August 17 and August 24, following the morning worship service, members of our church will be available in the fellowship hall to assist you in downloading the new online church directory. If you have not contacted Jessica with your updated email address, please do so to gain access to the app. Printed copies of the directory will be available at a later date upon request.

✦ Blessing of the Backpacks | August 17 | 10:00 AM

All school age children are asked to bring their school Backpack to worship and participate in the Blessing of the Backpacks.

✦ Worship Decorating Committee Advent Planning & Banners

It is hard to believe, but the Worship Decorating Committee is already planning for Advent! We have some Chrismon's in need of repair and we would also like to make some new ones. We are also trying to repair and make some new banners. We don't want to have all the fun, so we are inviting others to help. Many of you may have made them in the past and we need your expertise! If you are interested in helping with this project, there will be a sign-up sheet on the second-floor bulletin board. Dates will be determined based upon interest.

✦ Women's Bible Study

August 14 & 21 | September 11 | October 9 & 23

✘ Faithful & Free Bicentennial History Books

We have Faithful and Free Bicentennial History books available to pick up at each church entrance. Written by Dr. Jesse J. Croom, his vision for these books would provide a love for our heritage, hope for our future and thanks to our loving God. Please consider making a donation to our Heritage and Hope Fund.

✘ Greece Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of Paul | April 6-20, 2026

Join us for a transformative pilgrimage combining the breathtaking beauty of Greece with deep spiritual growth as you literally walk in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul through the Acropolis, Mars Hill, & the Athens Central Market. The journey includes a 7-day cruise of the Greek Islands with highlights in Ephesus, Mykonos, and Santorini. Led by Joe & Kim Olachea (from New Bern), respected and experienced teachers of Biblical history, and Greg and Lisa Barmer. \$5495 includes airfare from NJ, meals, ground transportation, 4 & 5-star hotels, tours, tips, etc. Contact Greg at (252) 362-1195 or Lisa at (252) 940-9296 for details and a brochure.

✘ The Gathering Place Ahoskie Needs

The Gathering Place needs used household furniture (pots, pans, couches, etc.) and women's deodorant and body lotion.