



The Worship of God ✦ November 30, 2025
The First 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

November 30, 2025 ✠ 11:00 AM

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

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS Dr. Dennis Bazemore

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Mr. Jordan Martin

PIANO PRELUDE *Carol of the Bells* Dr. Greg Barmer
arr. Mark Hayes

INVOCATION Dr. Bazemore

+HYMNS OF PRAISE

87 *Arise, Your Light Is Come* FESTAL SONG
120 *Emmanuel* EMMANUEL

LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE Mr. Nathan Rowe & Mrs. Ruthie Rowe

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?

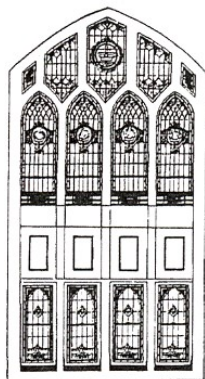
Our prayer is that they grow up to be like Jesus - strong and brave, full of grace and truth, and that we will help them.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 9:1-7 Dr. Barmer

In Pew Bible, pages 780 & 781 of Old Testament

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

Thanks be to God.



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

November 30, 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:*

Crib: Jenni Byrd & Betty Cooper

Ages 1 & 2: John & Becca Alexander

Pre-K & K: Gary & Claudia Morris

✘ Operation Inasmuch Christmas Day Lunch

December 25, 2025 | 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, and 10 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.

✘ 2026 Church Ministry Budget Vote | December 7, 2025

The Finance Committee has completed the Proposed Church Ministry Budget for 2026 and it has been presented to and affirmed by the Deacons. A copy of this proposed budget for next year will be available in the church office during business hours. The vote on the budget will take place before the beginning of worship on Sunday, December 7th.

✘ 2026 Confirmation of Deacon Nominees | December 14, 2025

On Sunday, October 19, 2025, resident church members nominated persons to serve as deacons for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2026. The top five nominees are:

Nancy Freeman Stuart Pierce Walt Pierce L. Taylor Rose Brandon Zoch

On Sunday, December 14, 2025, members will have the opportunity to confirm these nominees.

✘ Thank You from FBCA Youth!

We want to extend a HUGE thank you to everyone who supported our first fundraiser for our mission trip to the Dominican Republic this past Wednesday! Your generosity, presence, and prayers mean so much to our youth as we prepare for this incredible opportunity to serve. A special thank you to the amazing youth families and friends who helped make the night such a success: Kay Byrd, Jenni Byrd, Kari Pierce, Mary Page Pierce, Walt Pierce, Jessica Brinkley, Josh Brinkley, Lindsay Vaughan, Lou Wilson, Leslie Lawrence, Jamie Burns, Winnie Matthews, and of course, our wonderful youth! Thank you all for supporting our mission and believing in our youth!

Missed the meal? You can still help!

Donations are still being accepted, just bring your gift to our Financial Secretary, Sharon in and label it "Youth Mission Trip Donation." Each participant needs approximately \$2,000 to attend, so every contribution makes a meaningful difference.

✘ **Muffins for Missions, Youth Fundraiser | Sunday, December 14 | 9:15 - 9:45 AM**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 9:15–9:45 AM for Muffins for Missions! Enjoy a cup of coffee and a muffin while supporting our youth.

✘ **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 on the board beside the corresponding number. If you have any questions about your Angel, please call Ahsoskie Health & Rehab (252) 332-2126 and ask for Carolyn or Nicole. When you call, please have your Christmas Angel Code ready as you cannot be helped without a code. All gifts for Angels are to be wrapped with the Angel Tag securely attached to the gift. This is the only way to identify whom the gift belongs to and return under the tree by December 14 for delivery. May God bless you and those who receive!

✘ **Gathering Place Donations Needed**

If you have gently used coats, jackets, warm hats or gloves that you can donate to us at The Gathering Place. This can be for women, men, and children. You can drop them off at The Gathering Place Ahsoskie between 9:30 AM to 12 PM. We will also pick them up if you call Pat Byrd at 209-4301. Thank you and God Bless you.