



FOURTH SUNDAY
in
LENT

The Worship of God ✠ March 15, 2026

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

March 15, 2026 ✠ 11:00 AM

The Season of the Church Year: The Fourth Sunday in Lent

GREETING TO WORSHIPERS Greg Barmer

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Jordan Martin

PIANO PRELUDE *Beneath the Cross of Jesus/Lead Me to Calvary* arr. Don Wyrzten
Leah Newsome, piano

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE
Leslie Lawrence & Bracy Lawrence, Acolytes

+CALL TO WORSHIP Greg Barmer

Friends, we gather today before the God whose wisdom stretches far beyond our own, whose purposes are higher than we can imagine.

We come with wonder, ready to trust the One whose ways are greater than our ways.
When our vision is small and our understanding limited, God's plans are still unfolding - rich in mercy and as wide as the heavens.

God's wisdom lifts us beyond what we can see.

God's grace leads us where we could never go alone.

The Lord is not bound by our expectations or confined by our understanding.

His love is deeper than our doubts, His purposes are greater than our fears,

His ways are beyond our understanding.

So come, lift your hearts to the One whose thoughts are higher than the heavens, and at times, may even seem strange to us.

You know the whole story, Father. May we trust Your vision and not our own.

Your plans bring life, hope, and redemption, so with intentional faith we lift our voices in joyful praise to You, our great and glorious God!

+HYMN OF PRAISE 310 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

CHILDREN'S TIME & BLESSING Jack Glasgow

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 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 Greg Barmer
In Pew Bible, page 252 of New Testament

ANTHEM *God So Loved the World* Stainer

MORNING PRAYER Greg Barmer

+HYMN 366 *O God, Beyond All Praising* THAXTED

+OFFERTORY PRAYER Graham Lawrence

OFFERTORY

Jordan Martin

+ LENTEN DOXOLOGY, Hymn 171, stanza 3

WONDROUS LOVE

*“To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb who is the great “I Am,”
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing!”*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Jack Glasgow

In Pew Bible, page 322 of Old Testament

SERMON

Leadership Surprises

Jack Glasgow

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 473

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

+BENEDICTION

Jack Glasgow

LENTEN RESPONSE

arr. Mark Edwards

Jesus, keep me near the cross: there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

+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

Lead Me to Calvary
Leah Newsome, piano; Jordan Martin, organ

DUNCANNON

+Those who are able are invited to stand.

Today's altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Larry & Winnie Matthews.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

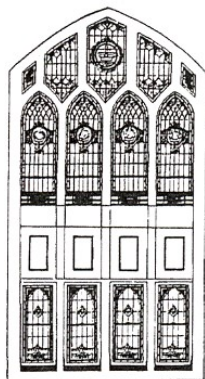
Dr. Greg Barmer
Interim Minister of Music

Rev. Jack Glasgow
Guest Preacher

Dr. Jesse J. Croom
Pastor Emeritus

Mrs. Leah Newsome
Pianist

Mr. Jordan Martin
Organist



A Window on the Weeks Ahead

March 15, 2026

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: Bill & Debbie Magette

Ages 1 & 2: William & Heather Alexander

Pre-K & K: Will & Ashlyn Blanchard

✘ Remember in Prayer

•Sarah Grace Britton •AT Byrum •Trey Byrum •Baron Chamblee •Lynell Eure •Earl Futrell
•Noreen Hannon •Susan Joyner •Eunice Sellars •Margaret Winn

✘ Upcoming Meetings

Building & Grounds Meeting | Monday, March 16, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Deacons' Meeting | Tuesday, March 17, 2026 | 6:00 PM

✘ Contribution Statements

Contribution statements are available for pick up in the second floor hallway. If you would like your statement mailed to you, please contact Sharon Hill at (252) 332-4003.

✘ Youth Fundraiser Lunch | Sunday, March 22 | Following the Church Service

Please support our youth group for their lunch fundraiser. The menu includes lasagna, garlic bread, salad, and assorted desserts. Meal cost is by donation. Reservations are appreciated but not required. Takeout plates will be available.

✘ Annual Easter Egg Hunt | Saturday, April 4, 2026 | 11:00 AM

Birth-Grade 5 | The Pierce Farm - 107 DT Rd. Ahoskie, NC 27910

✘ Candy Donations

We are collecting candy donations for this year's Easter Egg Hunt. Please place donations in the basket located by the library. A special thank you to our youth group who will be filling the eggs!

✘ Women's Bible Study Schedule | March 26 | April 23 | May 7 & 21

✘ Newsletter & Bulletin Information

Please email Jessica with midweek newsletter information by Noon on Monday and Sunday bulletin information by Noon on Wednesday. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

✘ Online Directory

Please ensure the church office has your updated email address for our online directory. If you need assistance downloading the online directory app, or logging in on the web browser, please contact the church office. Printed copies are available upon request, though we would like everyone to be sure their contact information is updated before we print. Thank you for all your help.

✘ Youth Lunch Volunteer Schedule

*Thank you, Youth lunch volunteers, for all of your help.
March 15: Rita Myers | March 22: Lou Wilson*

✘ Global Missions Offering Ingathering

We are receiving 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 \$9,000 and will be collected through the end of March 2026.

✘ Church Building Closed in Observance of Easter Monday | April 6, 2026

✘ College Scholarship Applications | Due April 15, 2026

Please call the church office if you would like an application. All completed applications are due in the church office by April 15, 2026.

James Wilton "Wig" & Frances Freeman Bracy Scholarship

Frances Bracy established a scholarship in honor of her family and her late husband Wig, desiring to make a college education affordable for church members who may have financial need or for whom college would otherwise be unattainable. FBCA members who will be college students during the 2026-2027 academic year are encouraged to apply.

Oscar Creech Scholarship

This scholarship is named after FBCA's longest tenured pastor who prayed that God would call persons, from among the FBCA membership, into full-time church-related vocation. Students who have sensed a call to ministry and are FBCA members, are encouraged to apply.