



FIRST SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Of Beaufort

PCA

THE LORD'S DAY

July 13, 2025

Sunday School: 9:30AM (all ages)

Morning Worship Service: 10:40AM

Evening Worship Service: 5PM

www.firstscotsbeaufort.org

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Prayer of Preparation

(Adapted from *Valley of Vision*)

O God of Grace,
You have laid my sin upon my Substitute,
and credited His righteousness to my soul.
You have clothed me in the robe of the
Bridegroom
and adorned me with the jewels of holiness.

Yet in my daily walk with You, I live far
below my calling;
Even my best prayers are tainted with sin;
my tears of repentance are mixed with
impurity;
my confessions are often stained with pride
and self-justification;
even as I come to worship, I sense my own
selfishness.

I need to repent on my repentance.
Even my tears need to be washed.
I have no robe of my own to cover my guilt,

no ability to weave my own righteousness.
I always stand before You in filthy garments,
and yet by grace, You continually clothe me
anew.

You always justify the ungodly.
I am always wandering like the prodigal,
and You are always receiving me with
mercy.
I am always crying, "Father, forgive me,"
and You are always running to embrace me
and clothing me with the best robe.

Lord, never let me lose sight of:
the terrible sinfulness of sin,
the perfect righteousness of salvation,
the matchless glory of Christ,
the radiant beauty of holiness,
and the astonishing wonder of grace.

Amen.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

JULY 13, 2025

Parents, we are delighted for your little ones to join us in worship! If they need to stretch their legs or lungs during the service, please feel free to use the Worshippers in Training (WIT) room or the nursery.

WELCOME

Rev. Alex Mark
Senior Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 37:4

Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:**

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Trinity Hymnal #100

OLD TESTAMENT READING / CALL TO CONFESSION: ISAIAH 6:1-5

[1]In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. [2]Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. [3]And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" [4]And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. [5]And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: ISAIAH 6:6-7

[6]Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. [7]And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM, QUESTIONS #43 & #44

Question 43: What is the preface to the Ten Commandments?

Answer: The preface to the Ten Commandments is in these words, *I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.*

Question 44: What doth the preface to the Ten Commandments teach us?

Answer: The preface to the Ten Commandments teacheth us, that because God is the Lord, and our God, and Redeemer, therefore we are bound to keep all his commandments.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING:

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** Fairest Lord Jesus Trinity Hymnal #170

SERMON: “UNBELIEF & THE GLORY OF CHRIST” Rev. Alex Mark
John 12:36-43

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING:** Be Thou My Vision Trinity Hymnal #642

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing, #457 (Stanza 3)

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.*

***Congregation Standing**

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please contact us at admin@firstscotsbeaufort.org or call 843-379-0134 for more information. Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 10AM-2PM.

MORNING SERMON TEXT

[36]“While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. [37]Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, [38]so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” [39]Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, [40]“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.” [41]Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. [42]Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; [43]for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.—John 12:36-43

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

I. THE NATURE OF UNBELIEF

II. THE PROGRESS OF UNBELIEF

III. THE ANTIDOTE FOR UNBELIEF

The Glory Isaiah Saw

Throughout our study of John 12, we have seen much Jewish unbelief regarding Jesus. Verses 1–8 record the objections of Judas to the honor Mary showed to our Lord when she anointed Him. In verses 9–11 and 19, we read that the Jewish religious leaders rejected Jesus. Finally, verses 34–36 testify that many Jews in Jerusalem during the last week of Jesus’ earthly ministry found it hard to believe in Him. They had difficulty understanding His teaching about the necessity of His death, and Jesus warned that they had to believe in Him before it was too late. He saw the people’s hearts and knew many of them were on the verge of rejecting Him.

In today’s passage, John gives a theological explanation for this hardness of heart. Turning first to Isaiah 53:1, John says the Jewish unbelief fulfills the question asked about the Suffering Servant. Isaiah saw that many would reject the Messiah, and the rejection of Jesus by many Jews is the fulfillment of that prophecy (John 12:36b–38).

Next, John looks to Isaiah 6:10, where God says He will harden many people to the truth of Isaiah’s message. As the Lord kept many people from believing Isaiah, so did He harden the hearts of many first-century Jews against Jesus (John 12:39–40). This may sound harsh or even “unfair,” but note that the biblical authors have no problem attributing an individual’s rejection of divine truth to the working of both the one who rejects it and to God Himself. As we see in the case of Pharaoh in the book of Exodus, God is not dealing with people who earnestly want to believe in Him when He hardens the hearts of men and women. Instead, He hands over to unbelief those who, because they are born in sin, have no desire to believe. He does not have to create fresh evil, as it were, in a sinner’s heart. Instead, in His judgment He gives fallen people what they want, and apart from divine grace, they want nothing to do with God and His glory. Augustine of Hippo comments that “God . . . blinds and hardens, simply by letting alone and withdrawing His aid: and God can do this by a judgment that is hidden, although not by one that is unrighteous.”

Finally, John 12:41 tells us that Isaiah prophesied as he did because he saw the glory of Christ. Since John quotes from Isaiah 6, where Isaiah’s vision of God is recorded, we likely have reference to a vision of the preincarnate Christ. When Isaiah saw God sitting on His throne high and lifted up (Isa. 6:1–7), he saw the Son of God.

Leon Morris, who was one of the foremost twentieth-century New Testament scholars, comments on today’s passage: “God’s purposes are not frustrated by the opposition of evil people. They are accomplished.” God used the hard hearts of Jesus’ opponents to fulfill His salvific purposes. Evil men are no real obstacle to His plans, and that should give us great comfort. He can use what others mean for evil for our good.

THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

July 13, 2025

Hymn Sing

Rev. Alex Mark
Senior Pastor

Call to Worship

Psalm 33:6

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

**Opening Hymn:*

All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

Trinity Hymnal #4

Scripture Reading:

Luke 12:35-59

Evening Prayer

Scripture Reading & Sermon: “GOD CREATES & SEPARATES”
Genesis 1:6-10

Rev. Alex Mark

**Closing Hymn*

Forever Settled in the Heavens

Trinity Hymnal #59

**Benediction*

**Congregation Standing*

GENESIS 1:6-10

[6]And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” [7]And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. [8]And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

[9]And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let dry land appear.” And it was so [10]God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

EVENING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

I. GOD’S POWER

II. GOD'S PREROGATIVE