



FIRST SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Of Beaufort

— PCA —

THE LORD'S DAY

August 30, 2026

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
Into His Presence—Praying with the Puritans
“A Sabbath-Day Prayer” by Lewis Bayly

O Lord Most High, O eternal God,
whose works are glorious and whose
thoughts are deep,
there is no better thing than to praise
Your name and declare Your
steadfast love.

We come before You this Lord's Day
as Your people gathered in Your
presence to worship You.

Heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus
Christ, Your Son,
pardon and forgive our sins.

Cleanse us from our unrighteousness,
and make this day a day of repentance
and reconciliation with You.

Turn our hearts again from sin and self
toward Christ, our Savior and our
righteousness.

As we worship together, speak to us
through the preaching of Your Word.
Let not the distractions of this world,
the hardness of our hearts,
or the wandering of our thoughts
hinder us from hearing Your voice.

Give us honest and receptive hearts,
that we may understand Your Word,
receive it with faith,
keep it with perseverance,
and bear fruit for Your glory.

Holy Spirit, sanctify us through the
truth.

Take what we hear today and put it
into practice—

for our direction in prosperity,
our consolation in misery,
the amendment of our lives,
and the glory of Your name.

And may we taste today something of
that eternal Sabbath when,
with all Your redeemed people,
we shall rest from our labors
and worship You in unending joy
and glory.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

AUGUST 30, 2026

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: REVELATION 5:9-14

[9]And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, [10]and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” [11]Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, [12]saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” [13]And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” [14]And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

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:**

In Christ Alone

see page 6

CALL TO CONFESSION: ROMANS 12:1-2

[1]I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. [2]Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: GALATIANS 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE SCOTS CONFESSION

Leader: People of God, what do you believe?

People: We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom alone we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING:

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Trinity Hymnal #252

SERMON: “LOVE WITHOUT RESERVE” Rev. Alex Mark
John 18:1-14

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING:** Take My Life, and Let It Be Trinity Hymnal #585
Stanzas 1 through 5

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** Take My Life, and Let It Be, #585, Stanza 6

*Take my love; My Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take my self, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

In Christ Alone

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
2. In Christ a - lone! Who took on flesh; Full-ness of
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death - This is the



Light, my Strength, my Song; This Cor - ner - stone, this Sol - id
God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right-eous-
world by dark - ness slain; Then burst-ing forth in glo - rious
power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal



Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
- ness, scorned by the ones He came to save: Till on that
day, up from the grave He rose a - gain! And as He
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of



love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings
cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is-
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His



cease! My Com - fort - er, my All in all, here in the
- fied; for ev - ery sin on Him was laid; Here in the
me; For I am His and He is mine - bought with the
hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the



love of Christ I stand.
death of Christ I live.
pre-cious blood of Christ.
pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

MORNING SERMON TEXT

[1]When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. [2]Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. [3]So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. [4]Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?” [5]They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. [6]When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground. [7]So he asked them again, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” [8]Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go.” [9]This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: “Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one.” [10]Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) [11]So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?” [12]So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. [13]First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. [14]It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.—John 18: 1-14

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

I. JUDAS: GIFTS WITHOUT GRACE

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES (CONT'D)

II. PETER: ZEAL WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING

III. CAIAPHAS: TRUTH WITHOUT FAITH

IV. JESUS: LOVE WITHOUT RESERVE

The Arrest of Jesus

(a devotional on John 18:1-9 from www.ligonier.org)

John 18:1–2 sets the scene of our Lord’s arrest—in a garden where Jesus frequently met with the disciples. Matthew 26:30 informs us that this garden was located on the Mount of Olives. It was probably an olive grove surrounded by walls, and some commentators suggest that it was owned by a wealthy benefactor who allowed Jesus and His disciples to use it when they were in Jerusalem. That would explain why Judas knew where it was (John 18:2).

Not long after Jesus and the disciples came into the garden, Judas arrived with a “band of soldiers” and “some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees” (v. 3). The soldiers were part of the Roman military, and they would have been stationed in Jerusalem during the Passover celebrations because of the potential for unrest. As a whole, the Jews did not take kindly to the Roman Empire’s occupation of their land, and during a pilgrimage feast such as Passover, it was not unusual for riots to break out or for messianic claimants to call for revolt against Rome. Because of this, it would have been no trouble for the Jewish authorities to get the Romans to lend a company of soldiers to help them arrest Jesus.

One commentator notes that, technically speaking, Jesus was not arrested, for He was in control of the situation despite all appearances. John’s record highlights Jesus’ control. Jesus knew what was about to happen, and He stepped forward before the authorities could ask for Him to reveal Himself (vv. 4–5). Effectively, He handed Himself over to the Romans and to the Jews. They did not seize Him, for He came to lay down His life for His people, and He did so willingly, without sacrificing His sovereignty over the events associated with the crucifixion (10:17–18). As Augustine of Hippo comments in a sermon on today’s passage, “Had [Jesus] never permitted them to apprehend Him, they would certainly not have done what they came to do.”

Jesus allowed the Romans and Jews to arrest Him as long as they left the other disciples alone, and John says this fulfills Jesus’ words that none of His true disciples would be lost (18:6–9; see 17:12). That night, Jesus protected His disciples from physical capture and from falling away from the faith finally when they saw Him arrested.

Since God’s control of the universe extends to the tiniest detail (Prov. 16:33), it is no surprise that Jesus was in full control of the events of His crucifixion. After all, He is God incarnate (John 1:1–18). Because of this sovereignty, we can be confident that He will not allow His people to fall away. We are secure in the hands of the One who was sovereign even over His own death.

Peter's Misguided Zeal

(a devotional on John 18:10-11 from www.ligonier.org)

When the Roman soldiers and Jewish authorities came to arrest Jesus on the Mount of Olives (John 18:1–9), not all of the disciples stood idly by. As we see in today's passage, Peter drew his sword and attempted to defend our Savior (v. 10).

John tells us that Peter struck one of the high priest's servants, a man by the name of Malchus. We do not know anything about this servant besides his name and that Jesus actually healed Malchus' ear (see Luke 22:50–51), but we do know that the sword Peter wielded would have been more like a dagger than what we might normally think of as a sword.

More importantly, Peter's action was an act of misguided zeal. No matter how well armed the disciples were—and likely all they had were some daggers like Peter's—they were vastly outnumbered. From any reasonable military estimate, the disciples could not have prevailed in offering resistance to the detachment of Roman soldiers sent to arrest our Lord. This may indicate that Peter believed the disciples would receive supernatural assistance because they were defending the One whom he confessed as God's appointed Messiah (Matt. 16:15–16).

If Peter held such a belief, it would have been as misguided as his action, for John 18:11 gives us a second reason why the disciple's drawing of his sword was unwarranted. Jesus rebuked Peter, telling him to sheath his sword because He had to drink "the cup" given to Him by the Father. What Jesus was enduring had to happen, for He came into the world to drink a specific cup—the cup of God's righteous wrath against the sins of His people (Ps. 75:8; Ezek. 23:31–34; Rev. 14:9–11). Scripture frequently uses the metaphor of drinking from a cup to refer to the outpouring of God's wrath against sinners. Ultimately, Jesus was arrested so that He could take our sins upon Himself, bearing God's just sentence against us so that we can be forgiven (Isa. 53).

Finally, let us learn from Peter to watch ourselves. We can also err, believing that we are serving God when we are violating His will. John Calvin writes, "Those who have resolved to plead the cause of Christ do not always conduct themselves so skillfully as not to commit some fault; and, therefore, we ought the more earnestly to entreat the Lord to guide us in every action by the spirit of prudence."

As we grow in the Lord, we should learn how prone we are to going astray, and we should ask Him to guard our steps. Only as we follow His guidance will we find the wisdom to serve Him in every situation. Let us be humble, remembering that we are likewise capable of rash actions that do not serve the gospel.

THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

August 30, 2026

Hymn Sing

Rev. Alex Mark
Senior Pastor

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:6-9

[6]Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
[7]For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
Today, if you hear his voice, [8]do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day
at Massah in the wilderness, [9]when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the
proof, though they had seen my work.

**Opening Hymn:*

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Trinity Hymnal #30

Scripture Reading:

Acts 14

Evening Prayer

Scripture Reading & Sermon: "NOAH: A TIMELESS PREACHER"
Genesis 7

Rev. Alex Mark

**Closing Hymn*

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Trinity Hymnal #521

**Benediction*

**Congregation Standing*

GENESIS 7

[1]Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. [2]Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, [3]and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. [4]For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” [5]And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

[6]Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. [7]And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. [8]Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, [9]two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. [10]And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

[11]In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. [12]And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. [13]On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, [14]they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. [15]They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. [16]And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.

[17]The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. [18]The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. [19]And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. [20]The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. [21]And all flesh died that moved on the earth, and all mankind. [22]Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. [23]He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. [24]And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

EVENING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

I. A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

II. A PREACHER OF AUTHORITY

III. A PREACHER OF URGENCY

As God Had Commanded

(a devotional on Genesis 7:6-10 from www.ligonier.org)

During the reign of Saul, the word of the Lord through Samuel commanded him to destroy the Amalekites, ancient enemies of Israel. The ban was placed upon these people — all persons and animals were to be eliminated (1 Sam. 15:1–3).

Characteristically, Saul did not obey the Lord. Instead, he and his subjects spared Agag, the king of the Amalekites as well as the choicest of their animals (vv. 4–9). God then sent Samuel to Gilgal to inform Saul He had rejected him as king over Israel (vv. 10–21).

In response to Saul's pleadings that he had indeed been obedient to the will of the Lord, Samuel uttered some of the most famous words in the Old Testament. "Behold," he said to Saul, "to obey is better than sacrifice" (v. 22b; see also v. 23).

The point here is not that the offerings and other regulations for worship were not important to God. In fact, true obedience in Saul's day necessarily involved the faithful administration of corporate praise. Instead, Samuel was emphasizing the need for heartfelt service to the Creator in all of life. Worship according to the letter of the Law is useless if there is no obedience motivated by love.

This lack of compliance is not as evident in Noah's life as it is in Saul's. In today's passage, his eager conformity to God's precepts is again mentioned, for Noah and his family, as well as all the animals, went into the ark just as "God had commanded" (Gen. 7:9). Noah, in a sense, is a new Adam, faithfully exercising the demands of the Lord and taking dominion over all living creatures.

However, we know from Noah's later transgressions (9:21) that he failed as the new Adam, being in the end only a type of the One who was later born in Bethlehem. Like Noah, Jesus did what God commanded, but His sinlessness (1 Peter 2:22) manifested itself in His total faithfulness to His Father's word. Today, those who are in Him by faith must also strive to do what the Lord mandates. Only those who desire to serve Him and are repentant when they fail to do so can rightly believe they have faith and thus a place in God's new world (Luke 18:9–14; James 5:15–16a; 1 John 3:4–10; Rev. 21:8).

The commendations of Noah's righteousness are intended to illustrate the benefits of holiness and motivate our obedience. Those who seek to follow all that the Lord commands can rightly expect a blessing, even if the fullness of this blessing will not be realized until the new heavens and the new earth. Are you following Christ with the expectation of a reward? Remember today that while your faithfulness cannot justify you, God does honor those who serve Him.