



# FIRST SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Of Beaufort*

— PCA —

## THE LORD'S DAY

### September 28, 2025

**Sunday School: 9:30AM (all ages)**

**Morning Worship Service: 10:40AM**

**Evening Worship Service: 5PM**

[www.firstscotsbeaufort.org](http://www.firstscotsbeaufort.org)

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# Prayer of Preparation: “One String to the Bow”

by Thomas Lye

From *Into His Presence: Praying with the Puritans* by Tim Chester

Lord God, you and you alone  
    should be the sole object of our trust.  
May there be but one string to the bow of  
our faith:  
    that is you, our Lord.  
May we not rest in any thing other than you.  
Forgive us when we trust in our heads,  
    for our own understanding is an unsafe  
    place to lean.  
Forgive us when we trust in our hearts,  
    for they are so deceitful and wicked.  
Forgive us when we trust in our vigor,  
    for our hands will soon hang down and  
    faint.  
Forgive us when we trust in any excellencies,  
    for the best of us in our best state is  
    altogether vanity.

Forgive us when we trust in riches,  
    for riches are fair-faced nothings,  
    taking flight like birds.  
Forgive us when we trust in human allies,  
    for they prove not to be staffs but broken  
    reeds.  
But on this the arm of trust may safely lean:  
    your almighty arm and power;  
    and your infinite goodness, mercy, and  
    bounty.

# THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

## SEPTEMBER 28, 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 95:6-7**

[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.

**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:** Crown Him with Many Crowns Trinity Hymnal #295

**OLD TESTAMENT READING/CALL TO CONFESSION: PROVERBS 16:18-20**

[18]Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. [19]It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud. [20]Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON: JOHN 10:27-29**

[27]"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. [28]I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. [29]My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."

**VOWS OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP**

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

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

# MORNING SERMON TEXT

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[36]Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.” [37]Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” [38]Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.”—John 13:36-38

## MORNING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

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### **I. CONFUSED BY SPECULATION**

### **II. DECEIVED BY PRIDE**

### **III.    RESCUED BY GRACE**

# He Will Hold Me Fast

## (When I Fear My Faith Will Fail)

**Full of Hope** (♩ = 66)  
(v3:Gm7)

Words vv. 1-2 by Ada Habershon (1861-1918)  
Alt. words vv.1-2, words v.3, and Music by Matt Merker

B♭ B♭/D E♭ E♭ F B♭

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;  
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;

(v3:Gm7)

5 B♭ B♭/D E♭ E♭ F B♭

When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.  
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.  
Just - ice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.

9 Gm F/A B♭ E♭ E♭ D Gm

I could nev - er keep my hold Through life's fear - ful path;  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Prom - is - es shall last;  
Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast

13 Gm F/A B♭/D E♭ E♭ F B♭

For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.  
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

# Refrain

18 Eb F Gm Gm F/A Bb

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;

22 Bb Cm7 Bb/D Eb Eb F last time to CODA ☐

For my Sa - vior loves me so, He will hold me

25 1. Bbadd9 Bb/D Ebadd9 Bbadd9 Bb/D

fast.

28 Ebadd9 2. Bb D.S. al Coda

fast.

☐ CODA

fast.



# Peter's Overconfidence

(a devotional on John 13:36-38 from [www.ligonier.org](http://www.ligonier.org))

Simon Peter frequently steps forward as a spokesman for the rest of the disciples in the Gospels, and he fulfills this role again in today's passage. Having heard from Jesus that He will be going away (John 13:33), Peter asks where the Savior is going (v. 36a).

It would be easy for us to castigate Peter for asking this question. The Gospels tell us that Jesus referred to His death and return to the Father several times before He told the disciples in the Upper Room of His impending betrayal and death (Matt. 17:22–23; Mark 8:31; Luke 17:25; John 10:11). Clearly, the Twelve had a hard time understanding and believing the Lord's words that He would die. Yet we are not so different, for how often do we fail to believe the Savior? We should not be quick to stand in judgment over the disciples for their failures, but we should see how we are like them so that we might be prepared to believe Jesus. John Calvin comments, "We hear daily from the mouth of Christ all that is fitted for usefulness in life, and all that is necessary to be known, and, when we come to practice, we are as much astonished as apprentices to whom not a word had ever been spoken."

Jesus, instead of condemning Peter for still not understanding that He will be departing, tells the Apostle that where He is going, Peter cannot follow now but will follow later (John 13:36). Peter cannot follow Jesus in death right away, but he will eventually follow Him to the grave and then to glory. There are two senses in which Peter cannot follow the Lord at this point in his life. First, it is not yet time for Peter to die. Peter will live for several more decades. Second, Peter cannot follow Jesus to death in the sense of dying to achieve the same ends. Peter cannot atone for sin; only Christ can do that. Still, Peter will follow Jesus to death eventually. Church history tells us that Peter was put to death for his faith under the tyranny of Emperor Nero in the early 60s AD.

As is typical of Peter, he responds boldly, telling Jesus that he can indeed follow Him now. In fact, he will follow Him even to death if necessary (v. 37). But Peter is speaking out of confidence in his own power and faithfulness. He does not realize that he is weak, but Jesus tells him that soon even loyal Peter will deny Christ before men. Peter is overconfident, trusting in his flesh and not in the power of the Spirit to sustain him. We, likewise, can place too much stock in our own abilities. So, as Calvin writes, "let each of us examine his own defects, that he may not be swelled with vain confidence."

Dr. R.C. Sproul writes in his commentary [on] John: "The failures of Judas, of Peter, and of their fellow disciples should cause us to fall to our knees in surrender, asking Christ to cause us to stand. Only by His power will we remain loyal to Him." We dare not trust in ourselves but only in the power of Christ to keep us faithful to Him. Let us ask Him this day to make us persevere.

# **Loving One Another**

(a devotional on John 13:31-35 from [www.ligonier.org](http://www.ligonier.org))

Jesus taught that love for Him transcends familial ties so that those who are His family are those who love Him and show it by doing His will (Matt. 12:46–50). So too must love for Jesus knit His disciples together as true brothers and sisters. This is the point of today's passage. In fact, love for our fellow Christians shows the world we are disciples of the Savior (John 13:35).

Jesus says the command for believers to love one another is a new command (v. 34), but we would be mistaken to think love between members of the covenant community was unknown prior to His incarnation. Any faithful Jew from the time of Moses onward knew he was obligated to refrain from vengeance and grudges, and to love his neighbor as himself (Lev. 19:18). Nevertheless, there are two aspects of the new covenant that make love different, or more clearly understood as the will of God for His people.

First, we must love other believers just as our Lord has loved us (John 13:34). Certainly, we cannot atone for the sins of others, and therefore we cannot love others in the exact same manner as Christ loves us. Still, like Him we can be willing to lay down our lives for our friends, which is the greatest love of all (John 15:13). We can also follow Jesus' example and empathize with others in their weaknesses (Heb. 4:15). All of us must do whatever we can to make our local churches places of refuge for repentant sinners where they can find forgiveness, love, and encouragement. If a penitent believer who has sinned heinously cannot find any friends in the church, we are not keeping this commandment.

Second, our love for other Christians must mirror the love of the Father for the Son and the Son for the Father (John 15:10). Living under the new covenant, we have a clearer revelation of our Triune God who encompasses within Himself diversity (three persons) and unity (one essence). Like the Father and Son, the diversity evident in the body of Christ must not abolish our unity of purpose nor separate us into factions who war over relatively minor differences of opinion. True love for other believers unifies the diverse church.

True Christian love will unify believers, but this unity will not be a unity that denies the truth. Christian love and truth are inseparable; thus, we do need to separate from those who have abandoned the fundamental tenets of the Gospel. Unfortunately, we all too often seek any excuse beyond this to break away from other believers. All of us ought to befriend fellow believers who affirm the fundamentals of the faith even if they are not from our denomination or tradition.

# THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

## September 28, 2025

*Hymn Sing*

Rev. Michael Bauer

*Call to Worship*

Hebrews 10:19-22

[19]Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, [20]by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, [21]and since we have a great priest over the house of God, [22]let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

*\*Opening Hymn:*

Come, Thou Almighty King

Trinity Hymnal #101

*Scripture Reading:*

Luke 18:1-17

*Evening Prayer*

*Scripture Reading & Sermon:*

“CHRIST OUR KING”  
Psalm 97

Rev. Michael Bauer

*\*Closing Hymn*

O Jesus, We Adore Thee

Trinity Hymnal #255

*\*Benediction*

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*\*Congregation Standing*

# PSALM 97

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[1]The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! [2]Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. [3]Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around. [4]His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. [5]The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth. [6]The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory. [7]All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship him, all you gods! [8]Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD. [9]For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. [10]O you who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked. [11]Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. [12]Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

## EVENING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

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### I. REJOICE IN THE KING

## **II.    WORSHIP THE KING**

## **III.    LIVE FOR THE KING**