



FIRST SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Of Beaufort

PCA

THE LORD'S DAY

September 27, 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: “Prayer Before the Sermon”

by The Westminster Assembly

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

Lord God, confident of your mercy to
your whole church,
and the acceptance of our persons,
through the merits of our High Priest,
the Lord Jesus,
we profess that it is the desire of our souls
to have fellowship with you in the
reverend use of your holy ordinances,
And to that purpose, we pray earnestly
for your grace and effectual assistance
to sanctify your holy Sabbath, the
Lord’s day,
in all its duties, public and private.
We pray this for ourselves and for all
other congregations,
according to the riches and excellency
of the gospel,
which this day is celebrated and
enjoyed.

Lord God, we have been unprofitable
hearers of your word in times past,
and now cannot of ourselves receive,
as we should, the deep things of God,
the mysteries of Jesus Christ, which
require spiritual discernment.
And so we pray that you, O Lord,
who make teaching profitable, would
be graciously pleased to pour out the
Spirit of grace upon the means of
grace.
We pray this that we might attain such a
measure of the excellence of the
knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord,

and, in him, of the things which
belong to our peace,
that we may count all things as dross
compared to him;
and that we, tasting the firstfruits of
glory, may long for a fuller and more
perfect communion with him.

We pray you would in a special way equip
your servant (now called to dispense the
bread of life to your family)
with wisdom, fidelity, zeal, and
eloquence,
that he may divide your word aright to
each of us,
in evidence and demonstration of the
Spirit and power.

We pray that you would circumcise our
ears and hearts
to hear, love, and receive with
meekness the word.

Make us good soil to receive the good
seed of the word,
and strengthen us against the
temptations of Satan, the cares of the
world, the hardness of our own hearts
and whatever may hinder us from
profitable hearing.

We pray that Christ may be so formed in
us, and live in us, that all our thoughts
may be brought into captivity with him,
and our hearts established in every good
work for ever.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 27, 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: PSALM 119:89-93

[89]Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens. [90]Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast. [91]By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants. [92]If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. [93]I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.

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:** Come, Thou Almighty King Trinity Hymnal #101

OLD TESTAMENT READING/CALL TO CONFESSION: PSALM 51:1-6

[1]Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. [2]Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! [3]For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. [4]Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. [5]Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. [6]Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: I JOHN 1:8-9

[8]If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9]If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

MORNING SERMON TEXT

[33]So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” [34]Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” [35]Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” [36]Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” [37]Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” [38]Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him.”—John 18:33-38

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

I. TRUTH CONFRONTS US

II. TRUTH CALLS US

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES (CONT'D)

III. TRUTH COSTS US

IV. TRUTH COMPLETES US

O GREAT GOD

Words and Music by Bob Kauflin

C G C Dm C/D Dm C F Fadd2/A

1. O great God of high-est heav'n, oc - cu - py my low - ly heart. Own it
 2. I was blind - ed by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice, did not
 3. Help me now to live a life that's de - pen - dent on Your grace. Keep my

C G C F Fmaj7 G2/5 G F/G C G F2/5/G

all and reign supreme, con-quer ev - ery re - bel pow'r. Let no
 know Your love with - in, had no taste for heav - en's joys. Then Your
 heart and guard my soul from the e - vils that I face. You are

Am Am7 G/F F2/5 C G F/G Am Am7 F Fmaj7/C G2/5 G F/G G

vice or sin re - main that re - sists Your ho - ly war. You have
 Spir - it gave me life, o-pened up Your Word to me, through the
 worth - y to be praised with my ev - ery thought and deed. O great

Fadd2/A F/A G/B C F C/F G2/5 G G7/5 C

loved and pur - chased me, make me Yours for - ev - er - more.
 gos - pel of Your Son, gave me end - less hope and peace.
 God of high - est heav'n, glo - ri - fy Your Name through me.

Pilate's Cynicism

(a devotional on John 18: 37-38 from www.ligonier.org)

Roman governor Pontius Pilate apparently saw through the attempts of the Jewish religious leaders to paint Jesus as a would-be earthly ruler who plotted rebellion against Caesar. Thus, he questioned Jesus about what He had actually done (John 18:33–35). But our Lord did not deny His kingship; rather, He declared that He did rule over a kingdom, albeit a kingdom very different from the kingdoms of this world (v. 36).

No doubt, Pilate found Christ's answer surprising. Having been convinced that there were holes in the accusations levied by the Jewish authorities, Pilate now had to deal with Jesus' testimony to having a kingdom and, therefore, to being a king of some kind. He then pressed Jesus further, asking our Lord again if He was a king. This time Jesus answered more obliquely, stating that He came into the world in order to bear witness to the truth (v. 37). Given the parallel with Pilate's question and Jesus' answer in John 18:33–36, one commentator notes that Jesus was essentially saying that Christ's rule over His kingdom and His bearing witness to the truth are indistinguishable. Indeed, this must be so, for if salvation comes through bowing the knee to Jesus, the King of kings, one must first accept that He is the truth and the only way to God (14:6). And since one of the chief duties of any king is to judge according to the truth, Jesus bears witness to the truth every time He judges (Rev. 19:11).

However, not everyone will submit to the truth to which Jesus bears witness. Only those who are “of the truth” listen—that is, follow Him (John 18:37). Here we see the necessity of regeneration and that it comes before faith. Before people will follow Jesus, they must be re-created to be “of the truth.” They must be given new hearts to believe the gospel and obey Jesus as Lord (3:3, 21).

Clearly, Pilate was not “of the truth,” for he then asked, “What is truth?” (18:38a). Pilate really was not concerned about the objective facts of Jesus' case. He did not care about whether Jesus' testimony conformed to reality, but he desired only to deal with the situation expediently and move on from the Jews' in-house “problem.” Thus he joined the ranks of those who seek pragmatism, not principle—what seems to be best for them, not what actually reflects what is true and right. These people exist in every age, and we dare not act like them. If we are “of the truth,” we must be concerned for the truth.

Dr. R.C. Sproul writes in his commentary [on] John that “the issue in our day in regard to truth is whether there is an objective reality that is true for everyone, no matter who we are, where we live, or what we do. The same issue was on the front burner in Jesus' day.” As servants of Christ, who is the Truth (John 14:6), we cannot afford to be indifferent to the truth or to believe that truth is relative. Our calling is to stand for the truth in matters great and small.

THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

September 27, 2026

Hymn Sing

Rev. Alex Mark
Senior Pastor

Call to Worship

Psalm 84:1-4

[1]How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! [2]My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. [3]Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. [4]Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! Selah

**Opening Hymn:*

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Trinity Hymnal #92

Scripture Reading:

Acts 16:11-24

Evening Prayer

Scripture Reading & Sermon: "THE ARMOR OF GOD"
Ephesians 6:10-20

Rev. Michael Bauer

**Closing Hymn*

O Church, Arise

see page 12

**Benediction*

**Congregation Standing*

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

[10]Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. [11]Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. [12]For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. [13]Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. [14]Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, [15]and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. [16]In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; [17]and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, [18]praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, [19]and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, [20]for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

EVENING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

I. THE REALITY OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

EVENING SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES (CONT'D)

II. THE ARMOR FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE

III. THE POWER IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE

O Church, Arise

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mor on; hear the
2. Our call to war - to love the cap - tive soul, but to
3. Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
4. So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - ery stride, give



call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the
Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lie crushed bé -
grace for ev - ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en. With shield of
wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val - or. When faced with
- neath His feet, for the Con - quer - er has ris - en! And as the
win the prize of a serv - ant good and faith - ful. As saints of



faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a - gainst the dev - il's
trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the out - come is se -
stone is rolled a - way and Christ e - mer - ges from the
old still line the way, re - tell - ing tri - umphs of His



lies; an ar - my bold, whose bat - tle - cry is love, reach - ing
- cure, and Christ will have the prize for which He died, an in -
grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues till the day ev - 'ry
grace, we hear the calls and hun - ger for the day when with



out to those in dark - ness.
- her - it - ance of na - tions.
eye and heart shall see Him.
Christ we stand in glo - ry.

The Armor of God

(a devotional on Ephesians 6:1-20 from www.ligonier.org)

God reveals Himself as the divine Warrior who fights on behalf of or against the people who profess to bear His name, depending on their faithfulness to His covenant. While this truth was known under the old covenant (see, for example, Ex. 15:3; Dan. 10:10–14), now under the new covenant we have a clearer perspective on spiritual warfare, especially insofar as we are called to fight on the Lord’s side against the Enemy and his minions.

Paul explains how we are to equip ourselves for this spiritual warfare. In Ephesians 6: 10–12, he reminds us that our struggles with sin and with those people who hate the living God are not battles against flesh and blood but against the Evil One. Before we knew Christ, we were in Adam and enslaved to the powers of sin and death. Having been reconciled to God through Jesus, we no longer have the Devil as our captain but now serve in the army of the Lord (Rom. 5:12–21). Still, the influence of sin does not disappear at once, for the world, the flesh, and the Devil strive to make us forget whose side we are on as servants of the cross (7:7–25; 1 Peter 5:8–9).

The only effective way to keep us from going against the way of Jesus and acting as traitors to His cause is to continually put on the uniform that identifies us as His soldiers (Eph. 6:13–17). Paul uses the analogy of a soldier’s armor to describe the armor of faith. While it is possible to draw some inferences as to the reason why each particular piece of armor is linked to its specific spiritual characteristic, it is more important to see that the roots of Paul’s thinking go back to the Old Testament. In Isaiah 59:15b–17, the prophet speaks of God wearing the same kind of armor as we are to wear in battle against Satan. Putting on spiritual armor simply means that we continually clothe ourselves in the Lord, relying on His gifts and graces to resist temptation and to enable us to risk even our own well-being for the sake of the kingdom.

Continual prayer in the Spirit both for ourselves and for the needs of fellow believers is the means by which we wear this armor (Eph. 6:18–20). Praying in the Spirit is not a mystical experience but rather an alertness to pray, along with a quickness to pray, because, knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes with and for us as we pray, we recognize the power in acknowledging our dependence on God (Rom. 8:26–27).

John Calvin comments on this passage, reminding us that we should not let the “injurious treatment” of others provoke us to revenge, for those who bother us are merely darts from Satan’s hand. “While we are employed in destroying those darts, we lay ourselves open to be wounded on all sides.” Instead, “we must go straight to the enemy, who attacks and wounds us from his concealment — who slays before he appears.”