

*“But I want you to know that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins”*

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024



LITHIA SPRINGS  

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METHODIST CHURCH

WELCOME TO  
LITHIA SPRINGS METHODIST CHURCH

*The flowers adorning the chancel area are given to the glory of God*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Glenn McElroy

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS,  
AND INVOCATION Rev. Thomas Long

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on "Woodworth"  
Arr. Rick Parks Glenn McElroy

OPENING HYMN\* "I Sing the Almighty Power of God" #4

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH\* #691

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM "At Your Feet"  
Arr. Gary Lanier Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Thomas Long

CHILDREN'S TIME Rev. Thomas Long

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Thomas Long

OFFERTORY John Gentry

DOXOLOGY\* #682

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Words Thomas Ken, music Louis Bourgeois CCLI1152573

HYMN\* "As the Deer" #200 (P&W)

**Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man**

2 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

6 Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7 "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9 Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? 10 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, 11 "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

**Jesus Calls Levi and Eats With Sinners**

13 Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. 14 As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.

15 While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. 16 When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

17 On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Thomas Long

HYMN\*

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee "

#596

BENEDICTION\*

Rev. Thomas Long

POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Almighty King"  
Arr. Anna Laura Page

Glenn McElroy

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable.*

## **This Week's Schedule**

### **Today, September 22:**

9:45 a.m. .... Adult Sunday School  
9:45 a.m. .... Children's Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service

### **Monday, September 23:**

7:00 p.m. .... Boy Scouts Troop 62

### **Tuesday, September 24:**

7:00 p.m. .... Finance

### **Wednesday, September 25:**

5:30 p.m. .... Prayer Group  
6:00 p.m. .... Cub Scouts Pack 62  
6:00 p.m. .... Family Fun Night  
6:45 p.m. .... Handbell Choir  
7:45 p.m. .... Chancel Choir

### **Sunday, September 29:**

9:45 a.m. .... Adult Sunday School  
9:45 a.m. .... Children's Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service

We want to extend our sincere gratitude to the many volunteers who came out last Friday and Saturday and helped prepare for and who worked our Fall Festival. We couldn't have done it without you! From setting up tables, organizing craft kits, preparing food, and manning stations, your dedication to our church and your enthusiasm allowed us to present ourselves to the community in the way that we had envisioned, despite the rain. Thank you again, for your generosity of time, spirit, and resources. We really do have an amazing and loving church family.

A huge thank you to all who donated items for the Annette Winn Backpack Blessings food collection! Dr. Wilson at AWE sends her gratitude for the generous donation delivered to the school. A special thank you to our members who loaded and delivered the items—Karl & Carol Leymann, Eddie Adams, Bob Wallace, and Cindy Spivey. Please continue to pray for the staff and children at AWE—for their safety, educational opportunities, and that this

donation of food will help to fill their stomachs and bless their souls. Thank you again for your generous spirits. – Margaret Arnold, Partner in Education

### **Family Fun Night Sept. 25th**

Our Next Family Fun Night is THIS WEEK on Wednesday, September 25th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will share a snack supper and play games. Invite a friend or neighbor!

### **Charge Conference October 20th at 4pm**

Please join us at Dog River GMC for a time of worship and celebration for our first Charge Conference as a Global Methodist Church! Reverend Andy Postell will deliver the message and they are looking for churches to lead a congregation hymn or special chorus. If you feel called to serve in this way, please contact the church office. Refreshments will be served and we are asked to help provide foods such as cookies, brownies, finger sandwiches, or beverages. Please get in touch with the church office if you are able to contribute in this way. We look forward to seeing you there as we hear testimonies and join together in celebration of all God is doing in our church and in our district.

### **Trunk or Treat Oct. 31st**

The Children's Department would like to announce that Trunk or Treat 2024 will be held on Thursday, October 31st. Setup will begin at 6pm and from 6:30pm-8:00pm we will hand out candy to children of the community outside the Children's Wing. Please contact the church office if you plan to decorate a trunk and candy donations can be dropped off there, as well. Let's get creative and have some fun!

To contact the church office, please send correspondence to  
[office@lithiaspringsmethodist.org](mailto:office@lithiaspringsmethodist.org)  
Or call 770.948.5429

Wi-Fi is available in the Sanctuary  
Name: Sanctuary Password: Faith2024

For online giving visit:  
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