

FESTIVAL of CAROLS



LITHIA SPRINGS
METHODIST CHURCH

December 7, 2025

WELCOME TO
LITHIA SPRINGS METHODIST CHURCH

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Glenn McElroy

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Thomas Long

PRELUDE

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”
with “O Come, Let Us Adore Him”

Glenn McElroy
Arr. Carolyn Hamlin

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Philip & Beverly Kitchens

HYMN*

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
No 162

MORNING PRAYER; LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Thomas Long

HANDBELL CHOIR

“Joy to the World”
Arr. Anna Laura Page

“Silent Night”
Arr. Anna Laura Page

“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”
Arr. Anna Laura Page

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Thomas Long

OFFERTORY

“Gloria in Excelsis Deo”
Glenn McElroy & John Gentry
Arr. Lloyd Larson

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Words: Thomas Ken; Music: Louis Bourgeois
CCLI 1152573

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

Joseph M. Martin

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Margaret Arnold

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

THE FIRST LESSON:

THE BIRTH OF CHRIST FORETOLD

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

“Celtic Advent Carol”

THE SECOND LESSON:

THE PEACE OF CHRIST FORETOLD

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Congregation:

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation
hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.
Born Thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to Thy glorious throne!
By Thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone.

**THE THIRD LESSON:
THE ANGEL GABRIEL'S
APPEARANCE TO MARY**

Luke 1:26-35, 38

“My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord”
Vickie Brubaker, Soloist

**THE FOURTH LESSON:
THE BIRTH OF JESUS**

Luke 2:1, 3-7

CRADLE CAROLS

“Away in a Manger”
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Congregation:

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
‘round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly
peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

**THE FIFTH LESSON:
THE SHEPHERD'S JOURNEY
TO THE MANGER**

Luke 2:8-16

“A Noel Celebration”

**THE SIXTH LESSON:
THE SCHOLAR'S PILGRIMAGE
TO THE CHILD**

Matthew 2:1-12

“A Christmas Invitation”

BENEDICTION

Rev. Thomas Long

POSTLUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
Glenn McElroy
Arr. David Lasky

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Handbell Choir

Tammy Brubaker • Jane Carter • Lucretia Dallas
Georgia Deakin • Glenn McElroy • Bev McKown
Barbara Skinner • Bonnie Standridge
Sandra Warr

Chancel Choir

Bart Arther • Jess Arther • Sam Arther • Michael
Barrett • Tammy Brubaker • Vickie Brubaker
Glenda Cowan • Georgia Deakin • John Gentry
Ron Hudson • Marilyn Hutton • Debra Livingston
Rev. Thomas Long • Glenn McElroy • Bev
McKown • Barbara Skinner • George Walker
Sherry Walker • Sandra Warr • Alorra Williamson

Other Acknowledgments

Narrator - Margaret Arnold
Cantata Accompanist - John Gentry
Organist - Glenn McElroy
Pianist - John Gentry
Sound - Dylan Bevins

This Week's Schedule

Today, December 7:

9:45 a.m..... Adult Sunday School
9:45 a.m..... Children's Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Christmas Cantata
2:00 p.m..... Movie Matinee FH

Monday, December 8:

7:00 p.m..... Scouts Troop 62
5:00 p.m..... CE Mitchell Tutoring
6:00 p.m..... Finance Committee

***Please stand as you are comfortable**

Tuesday, December 9:

5:00 p.m. CE Mitchell Tutoring
7:00 p.m.Methodist Men’s Group

Wednesday, December 10:

4:00 p.m. Prayer Group
6:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 62
7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 11:

5:00 p.m. CE Mitchell Tutoring

Friday, December 12:

5:00 p.m.HFTB volunteer meal
7:00 p.m. HFTB

Saturday, December 13:

5:00 p.m.HFTB volunteer meal
7:00 p.m. HFTB

Sunday, December 14:

9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Children’s Sunday School
5:00 p.m.HFTB volunteer meal
7:00 p.m. HFTB

Movie Matinee TODAY

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
Sunday, December 7th, at 2pm, Fellowship Hall
We have the popcorn, you bring a friend!

How Far to Bethlehem Live Nativity

Experience the wonder of Christmas at LSMC’s live drive-thru nativity on December 12, 13, and 14 from 7:00–9:00 PM. Journey through the story of Christ’s birth from the comfort of your car as living scenes bring the miracle of that holy night to life. This special ministry is free and open to all. We also invite you to be part of the story! Volunteers are needed to serve as actors, greeters, traffic guides, and dressing assistants. Help is also needed for scene setup and breakdown. If you’d like to participate in this meaningful outreach, please call or email the church office. Come celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with us—there’s a place for everyone in Bethlehem!

A meal is provided each evening of HFTB at 5:00 p.m., giving volunteers time to eat before actors begin dressing at 6:00 p.m. and take their places for the 7:00 p.m. presentation when the community arrives.

We are seeking donations to support these nightly volunteer suppers. Contributions of apple juice, homemade desserts, cookies, or snack cakes may be dropped off throughout the week either in the conference room across from the church office or in the kitchen. Please be sure to label all items with “HFTB.” Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

Save the Date! Christmas Party

Sunday, December 21st, at 12:00pm

FREE - Church Pews Available

Two wooden pews from the children's wing are available for free to anyone who wants them. These are heavy! You'll need help moving them. Contact the church office if interested. First come, first served!

Prayer Requests

Please remember to lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers throughout the week:

Betty Andrews • Mae Ora O’Shields • Rosamary & Danny Johnson • Kenneth Bowden • Mike & Pam Arther • Sherry & George Walker • Joetta Hayes • Bill Camp • Michael Offei • Diane Dempsey • Calvin Hembree • Sybil Clower • Karen Forehand Family of Troyce Hendricks • Lance Gay

To contact the church office, please send correspondence to office@lithiaspringsmethodist.org PastorThomas@lithiaspringsmethodist.org Or call 770.948.5429

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