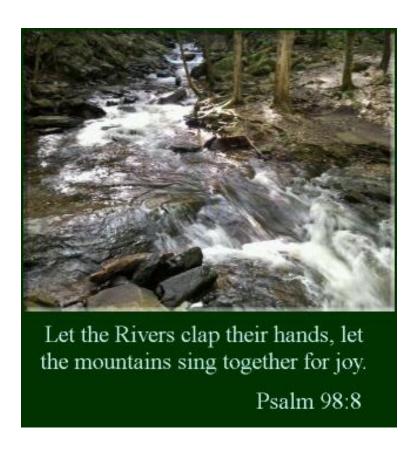
#### St. John's Lutheran Church

#### 218 North Jefferson Street Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051 Parsonage: 724-548-5512 Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

#### November 16, 2025 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE



St. John's Lutheran Church is part of the North American Lutheran Church. We welcome you and are glad you are participating in the Service of the Word this morning as we celebrate the **Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**. Please register your attendance in the blue pad at the end of the pew. HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated the first and third Sundays of each month and on Festival Sundays. All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper are invited to receive this Sacrament with us.

Prayer upon entering God's House:

Gracious Lord, pardon us from our disobedience and self-centered will. Bend us to kneel before Your holy presence and obey You so we may conform to "a life worthy of our calling to which we have been called..." Amen.

PRELUDE "Meditation" Guilmant

#### \*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ♥ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### C Amen

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen

**P** Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"BUILT ON A ROCK"

LBW 365

#### \*GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.





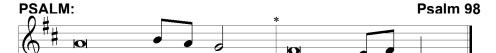
Lord God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, always keeping in mind the end of all things and the day of judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of life here and may live with You forever in the world to come, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### FIRST LESSON: Malachi 4:1-2a

Α The First Lesson is from the fourth chapter of Malachi.

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Here ends the reading. Α



Sing to the LORD | a new song,\*

for He has done | marvelous things.

<sup>2</sup>With His right hand and His holy arm\* has He won for Him-self the victory.

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has made | known His victory;\*

His righteousness has He openly shown in the sight | of the nations.

<sup>4</sup>He remembers His mercy and faithfulness to the | house of Israel,\* and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>5</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;\* lift up your voice, re-| joice, and sing.

<sup>6</sup>Sing to the LORD | with the harp,\* with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>7</sup>With trumpets and the sound | of the horn\* shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>Let the sea make a noise and all | that is in it,\* the lands and those who | dwell therein.

<sup>9</sup>Let the rivers | clap their hands,\* and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when He comes to | judge the earth.

<sup>10</sup>In righteousness shall He | judge the world\* and the peo- | ples with equity.

#### SECOND LESSON:

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

The Second Lesson is from the third chapter of Second Thessalonians.

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. <sup>9</sup> It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup> As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

A Here ends the reading.



GOSPEL: Luke 21:5–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

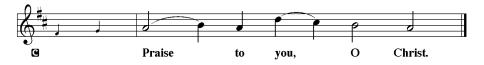
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<sup>5</sup> And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, <sup>6</sup> "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." <sup>7</sup> And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" <sup>8</sup> And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup> And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

<sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup> But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. <sup>13</sup> This will be your opportunity to bear witness. <sup>14</sup> Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, <sup>15</sup> for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all for my name's sake. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your lives.

L The Gospel of the Lord.



#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LBW 315

#### **SERMON**

#### **FIRST THINGS**

#### \*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 power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

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

He descended into hell.

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

#### \*THE PRAYERS

In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

#### A brief silence

Most holy God, you promise to come with power, glory, judgment, and healing. Sometimes that disturbs us! We want you to make all things right and new! But before that can happen, you'll show us our sins in all their ghastly glory. Cover us then, Lord, with your healing wings. Clothe us in the righteousness of Christ. Shield us with your Holy Spirit. Make us holy, whole, and filled with your eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

(Other intercessions are offered)

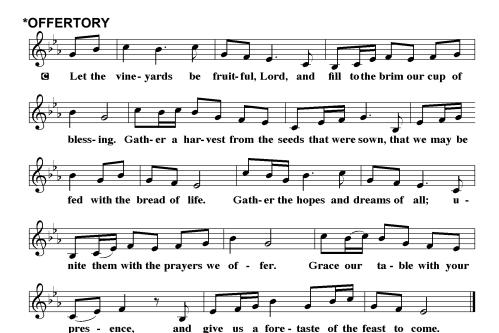
L Into your hands, O LORD, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our LORD.

C Amen

#### \*PEACE

P The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C And also with you.

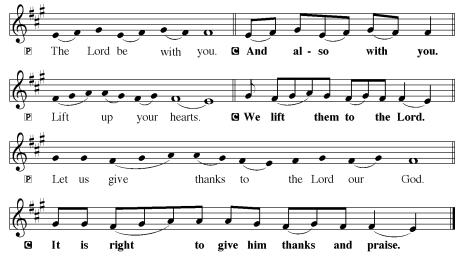


#### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

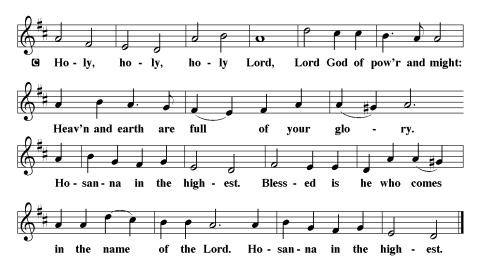
A Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**P** Blessed are You, LORD of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world, You gave Your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to You for the salvation You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

#### C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### \*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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen



#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

LBW 198, 205, 212, 214

#### \*COMMUNION

All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present In the Lord's Supper are invited to receive this Sacrament with us. (Gluten-Free Communion Wafers are available, please inform the Pastor of your needs)

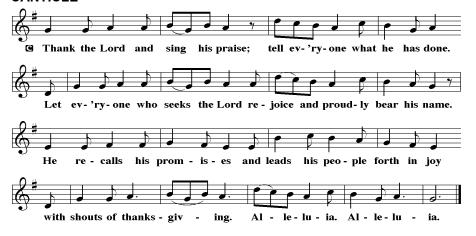
The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** 

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.C Amen

## **JESUS LOVES YOU**

#### \*CANTICLE



#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** Let us pray.... Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our LORD.

#### C Amen

#### \*BENEDICTION

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the  $\maltese$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Let All Things Now Living"

LBW 557

#### \*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Marion" Young

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A Nursery/Cry Room is available on the second floor of the Education Building for those who may need it.



Everyone is invited for a time of fellowship following worship in the Gathering space.



#### **Electronic Giving is Good for** You and the Church

You can now make a contribution to our church through a mobile app!

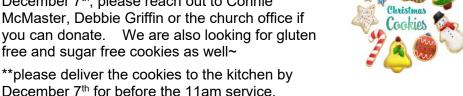
Scan the QR code for St. John's Lutheran Church: Options Include: Local Expenses, Improvement Fund, Benevolence. Capital Appeal, Evangelism, Sunday School, Youth, World Hunger, Katie's Cupboard and Other. When choosing "Other" please indicate which fund you are contributing to. Thank you for supporting your church.



"Give according to your income, lest God make your income according to your giving."

#### **Looking for Christmas Concert Cookies!**

December 7th, please reach out to Connie McMaster, Debbie Griffin or the church office if you can donate. We are also looking for gluten free and sugar free cookies as well~







#### **Internet Streaming** St. John's Live Broadcast

The St. John's worship service is broadcast live on You Tube each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. as well as

8:30 a.m. service Sundays. http://www.voutube.com/@st.iohnskittanning2251

#### Don't forget to check out your Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Here you will find: Bulletins, Newsletters, Morning Prayers, Upcoming events and program information, Youth Events including photos from the recent QUAKE trip, and more.



#### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday 11/16	9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Sunday School Senior Choir Worship: Communion
Monday 11/17	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mutual Ministry Worship & Music
Tuesday 11/18	1:00 p.m.	Newsletter Mailing (Folding Party)
Wednesday 11/1	9:30 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Children's Hour Senior Bells Pastor's Bible study Senior Choir
Thursday 11/20	9:30 a.m. 2:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Children's Hour Catechism Catechism
Sunday 11/23	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Worship: Rock of Our Salvation Sunday School Senior Choir Worship: Communion Youth Group Pittsburgh Trip Community Thanksgiving Worship:



The Kittanning Ministerial Association is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Worship Service on Sunday, November 23, at 7:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Assembly of God, Kittanning.

All are welcome!



#### Heading into the hospital?

Cornerstone AG

If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, please contact the office @ 724-548-2051. Because of confidentiality issues, the

hospitals are not as helpful in notifying us as they once were.

## Kalie's Cupboard

Again, this year we have created a Reverse Advent Calendar and included Epiphany as well.

St John's shines God's grace and light in the community with our cupboard and this addition is something "fun" to get you thinking of "star" items, warm items (gifts to the manger), teaching items/books (Jesus as a boy at temple) or miracle items, the Wedding at Cana (water in to wine). See the attached list in this month's newsletter.

If you would care to volunteer, have great ideas for further this ministry, or can offer suggestions, please contact any member of council, Amber Zurn 724/902-9471 or Tammy Fleeger 724/664-1773.



St. John's Lutheran Church

Presents the

Annual Christmas Concert

Featuring:

The Vocal Choirs
The Bell Choirs

Under the direction of Rebecca Veith Accompanist Elizabeth Cramer Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Admission is free.

No offering will be taken. Refreshments to follow the concert.

## Reverse Advent Calendar

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REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR KATIE'S CUPBOARD 2025

Day 1 Box of Cereal	Day 13	Dog/Cat food
Day 2 Dish Detergent	Day 14	Cleaning solutions for home
Day 3 Complete meal soups (ex Spaghetti 0's)	Day 15	Canned Fruit
Day 4 Protein – canned meats/etc.	Day 16	Female hygiene products
Day 5 Soaps (shower, hand, hair)	Day 17	Powdered milk
Day 6 Dinty Moore Stew	Day 18	Instant Mashed potato
Day 7 Baking products (bisquick,flour,sugar)	Day 19	Toothpaste & brushes
Day 8 Small Instant coffee	Day 20	Mens & womens deodorant
Day 9 Pasta Sauce	Day 21	Soups
Day 10 Stuffing Mix	Day 22	Instant flavored rice/noodles
Day 11 Canned vegetables	<b>Day 23</b>	Pancake mix
Day 12 Shaving items (male/female), combs	*Day 24	Baby food, diaper packs,
	<b>O</b>	wipes for babies to celebrate the hirth of The Christ Child



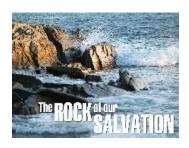
#### **Social Ministry Christmas Project**

This year we have the opportunity to adopt families for Christmas. There are sign-up boards in the narthex that list wants, needs and sizes. If you are unable to shop but would like to help, please make a donation in an envelope marked Christmas Families and place it in the offering. If you choose

to purchase the item(s), please place a check mark in the box next to each item you wish to purchase. Please use gift cards for food assistance. Remember to get a gift receipt when purchasing the gift and enclose it with the gift. Gifts should be unwrapped and a gift tag on each gift with the child's number.

<u>IMPORTANT!</u> The gifts should be brought to the church by <u>Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup></u> and each package marked with a Post it note attached on the outside describing the item inside and the name of the child (this information is for the committee only).

Any questions, please contact Michelle Kozlowski at 724-816-1680. Thank you for your support!



## Rock of our Salvation Worship

8:30 a.m. Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>





### We have a Texting App!

Mojo texting was created FOR churches! It is safe and doesn't sell your number to anyone else!

If you would like to receive schedule changes, updates, reminders and announcements from St. John's, please text the word **GRACE** to 724-276-5321. It will send you a welcome message. You will now receive important messages via text about what's going on at St. John's.

Messages will only be sent out on occasion and when important changes need to be communicated.

Thank you so much!

If you have any questions, please contact

Julie Smith.

ST. JOHN'S IS A GROUP OF SINNERS
WHO HAVE BEEN CLAIMED BY GOD
TO GATHER IN THIS PLACE TO WORSHIP
HIM,
TO LEARN ABOUT HIM,
TO BASK IN HIS LOVE,
TO SHARE HIS LOVE WITH EACH
OTHER, AND TO SPREAD THAT LOVE
WITH THE WORLD.



# Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 27, 2025 12:00 Noon

St. John's Lutheran Church 218 North Jefferson Street, Kittanning

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good!

#### Let's Give Thanks Together!

Join us for a free meal — come share some laughter, good food, and great company!

Limited Availability, Reservations Required.
Call 724-548-2051, or scan the QR code below, to reserve your spot today.

The above Community Outreach Ministry can use your assistance. How can you help?

**Pray** for the ministry and those it serves.

**Share** this opportunity with anyone who might benefit.

**Get involved** by volunteering, donating food, or making a financial contribution.

For more information or to offer support, please contact Rick or Juanita John.



If you would like to place a poinsettia(s) in our Church for the Christmas Eve Service, please complete this form and return with your check made payable to: "St. John's Lutheran Church" marked "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. The Poinsettias are \$9.00 each.

## Orders must be received by December 7, 2025 Number of **RED** Number of *WHITE* I wish for the acknowledgment in the bulletin to read as follows: PLEASE PRINT, USING FIRST AND LAST NAMES IN **MEMORY** OF IN *HONOR* OF \_\_\_\_\_ GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_ OFFERING ENVELOPE NUMBER: Please check one: Check Cash Check # Amount \$ Please check one: I will take my poinsettia(s) with me after the Christmas Eve Service.

Please take my poinsettia to a shut-in.

#### SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers Lectors Comm Assistants

Acolyte Welcome team Camera Operator Kay Thorell Richard Thorell Lori Young, Amber Zurn Jonah Petruschke, Sara Shafer Marlee Smith Bailey & Jazwinski Families Bill Bouch

#### **STAFF MEMBERS**

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry Secretary Sexton Organist/Choir Director/Director of Music Sr. Choir Accompanist Julie Smith Angela B. Clever TBD Rebecca Veith Elizabeth Cramer



**The flowers on the altar** this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Crooks given by Dean Crooks.

For 200 years St. John's has been a bright beacon of Christ's light and life for the world.

200 years and the work continues:

That all might know Christ's Love.

#### **OUR MISSION**

St. John's Lutheran Church is a group of people who believe that we are saved by God's grace and who respond to God's love by joyfully serving God, each other, our community and our world. We will humbly and lovingly serve by proclaiming the Gospel, teaching the Word, offering Sacraments, leading others to fellowship, supporting those in need, giving generously of our talents as well as our resources and by thanking and praising God.

