

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Home: 724-548-5512

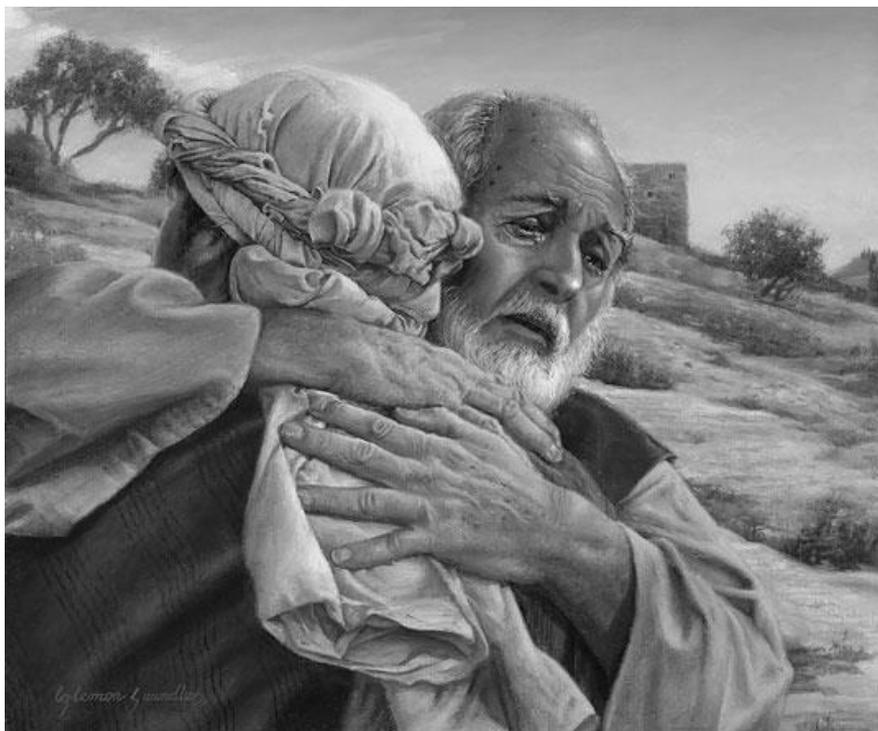
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

March 27, 2022

11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE



St. John's Lutheran Church is part of the North American Lutheran Church in America. We welcome you and are glad you are participating in the Service of the Word this morning as we celebrate **The Fourth Sunday in Lent**. 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:

Bless us, O Lord, with a reverent sense of Your presence so that we may be still and adore You; in Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

“Prelude and Fughetta”

Willan

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P We worship this day in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God.

Silence for self-examination.

P Holy and gracious God,

C I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness.

P The Almighty and Merciful Lord grants you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

***ENTRANCE HYMN** *“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”* LBW 290

***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.

***KYRIE**



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a- bove, and for our sal- vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.

*Those who are able, please stand

LBW—Green Hymnal WOV—Blue Hymnal



☩ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



☩ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



☩ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. ☩ A - men

*PRAYER OF THE DAY



☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

God of all mercy, by Your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON:

Joshua 5:9–12

A The First Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Joshua.

⁹ And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” And so, the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched

grain. ¹² And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

Psalms 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**⁴For Your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to You,
and did not conceal my guilt.

**⁶I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
Then You forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to You in time of
trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**⁸You are my hiding-place; You preserve me from trouble;
You surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

⁹I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

**¹⁰Do not be like horse or mule, which have no
understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."**

¹¹Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

**¹²Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

SECOND LESSON:

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

A The Second Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Second Corinthians.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake

he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A Here ends the reading.

***VERSE**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The tempo is marked with a common time signature (C) and the word 'slow'.

***GOSPEL:**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The musical notation is a single staff in G major, marked with a common time signature (C). It contains the melody for the text 'Glo - ry to you, O Lord.'

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.

² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe,

and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.

²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN

"What Wondrous Love is This"

LBW 385

SERMON

*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**

A For the Church, the world, and all those in need, let us pray to our Lord, who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

A brief silence

Dearest Father, thank you for forgiving, welcoming, and restoring us, even when we squander Your gifts and turn away from You! Thank you for Your Holy Spirit, who brings us “to our right minds” and helps us repent. Thank you for Your Son, who guides us to Your embrace. He gives his Body and Blood as your homecoming feast, clothes us with His own righteousness and places the signet-ring of His Sonship upon our hand. We give you thanks, Father, not as we ought, but as we are able. **A** Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

(Other intercessions are offered.)

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

C Amen

ANTHEM

“Grace Medley”

arr. Marsh

***OFFERTORY**



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?



I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will call on the



name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal - va - tion and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the



pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,



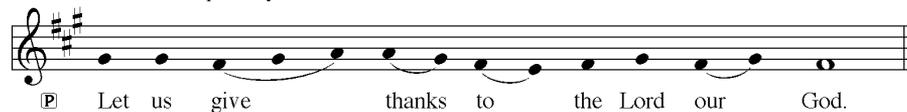
in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—ourselves, 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

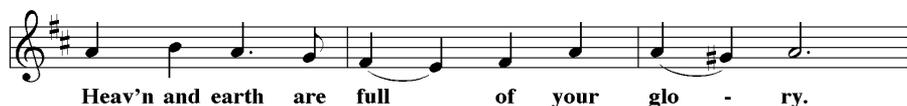
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



* PREFACE

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. You bid Your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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**

C: 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



☉ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

LBW 203, 222, WOV 660, 740

***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.

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

C Amen

*CANTICLE



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,



and will be for - ev - er. A - men

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray.... Almighty God, You gave Your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to His; through the same 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 ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



A - men

CLOSING HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

LBW 482

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Elegie”

Parry

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Rock of our Salvation
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group
Monday 3/28	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Bible Study: <i>Book of Luke</i>
Tuesday 3/29	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	KMA Lenten Worship @ <i>First Baptist</i>
Wednesday 3/30	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	5:30 p.m.	Junior Choir/Children's Chimes
	6:00 p.m.	New Bells
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:00 p.m.	Pastor's Bible Study
	8:00 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 3/31	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	11:15 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Saturday 4/2	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Sunday 4/3	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Youth Group

Lenten Men's Breakfasts

Every Saturday in Lent @ 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast and study. Following the meal will be a brief program.

Everything will be done by 9:00 a.m.

Katie's Cupboard needs your help!

Open - no questions asked, **Katie's Cupboard** fills gaps in services provided by organizations with operating hours and/or requiring paperwork/documentation. **It also encourages community and love for neighbor.** Join us in supporting Katie's Cupboard project in two ways. Purchase items when grocery shopping and place inside the cupboard. Volunteer to work on the "keep it stocked committee" to find ways to sustain this outreach through the congregation and community. Thank you!

Kentucky Disaster Response

We have all seen the terrible devastation from the aftermath of the tornadoes that ravaged Kentucky. Please keep them in prayer as they deal with the destruction.



NALC Disaster Response has sent truckloads of supplies to Kentucky and is on the ground. Pastor Pamela Thorson is preparing House of Prayer in Elizabethtown, KY to be the staging area for work teams and disaster supplies.

Our Mission District has sent \$2,000 and truckloads of supplies. Supplies continue to be collected and sent. A Mission Trip is being organized for May 1-7 2022. St. John's has sent \$600 and supplies, including toys for Christmas. We are collecting Health Kits, Flood Buckets, Gift Cards and donations to be sent.

To send money contributions to the NALC Disaster Relief mark on your envelope or in the Memo line - KY tornadoes. Reminder - 100% goes the tornado response. St. John's is a drop-off spot for relief items.

Social Ministry Collection for Kentucky Tornado: Health Kits

One hand towel: 15 x 25 or 17 x 27	One washcloth
One metal nail file or nail clipper with file	One comb
One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)	Six band-aids
One toothbrush (in original packaging)	\$1 to purchase toothpaste
One gallon sized zip lock bag.	

All items must be new! If you prefer, financial support may be given to be used for the purchase of kit items and/or shipping costs.



Women's Lenten Bible Study Tuesdays @ 6pm & Thursdays @ 11:15am.

"You are Never Alone" by Max Lucado

Order the study book on Amazon, or church has copies for you as well. Study dates in March are: Tuesdays, March 15, 22, 29 and Thursdays, March 17, 24 & 31.

Bible Study: The Book of Luke Monday evenings @ 7:00 pm

March 28 The Passion According to Luke
April 4 The Resurrection According to Luke

Community Lenten Series Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Date	Speaker	Host Church
March 29	Rev. Matthew Vatalare	First Baptist
April 5	Rev. Carl Johnson	Cornerstone Assembly of God
April 15	Rev. Mark Brady	St. John's (Good Friday)

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 pm Pastors' Study: A Lutheran Toolkit by Ken Jones

Lutheran Theology is both a treasure and a gift to the church. This little book by Ken Jones lays out some of these treasures in an easy to read, easy to understand fashion. Come explore the Lutheran Faith!

Mar 30 Chapters 7 & 8 The Church
April 6 Chapters 9 & 10 Sacraments n Death



Electronic Giving is Good for You and the Church

You can now make a contribution to St. John's through a mobile app!

To get started, download Vanco Mobile for free from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "Vanco

Mobile" to quickly find and download the app today. Then, you can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account. You can also choose to donate as a guest or set up an account that allows you to securely and conveniently schedule recurring donations and manage and review your giving history. We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry, and thank you for your support!

1. Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone•
2. Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account•
3. Log in or donate as a guest•
4. Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.

To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "Vanco Mobile" or contact the church office.

A Letter from Bishop Selbo:

Dear Pastors, Congregations, Partners in Ministry, Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Over the past several days, Russia has invaded Ukraine and is working to remove its government from power to replace it with its own. The actions of the Russian leader, Vladimir Putin, are unprovoked, the conflict is bloody, and the hostile takeover is one being protested by many nations throughout Europe and the entire world.

As a church body, the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) is in strong opposition to this war and is urging its pastors and congregations to be praying for an end to this senseless conflict. The NALC also has strong ties to the Ukrainian people through one of our partner ministries, the **Spiritual Orphans Network (SON Network)**. Formerly EEMN, the SON Network, led by Executive Director Pastor David Breidenbach, serves people in parts of the world that are often overlooked as a mission field. They excel at reaching spiritual orphans in the unique context of former communist nations. In this case, they are actively involved in supporting missionaries in Ukraine, as well as providing humanitarian support to the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing that country in the war.

As you consider how to support the people of Ukraine, know that the SON Network is an official partner ministry of the North American Lutheran Church and that their work amidst this devastating conflict is being done openly in the name of Jesus Christ.

We encourage you to be praying for the people in Ukraine, for the families torn apart by the war, for the humanitarian efforts that will be needed for some time, as well as for the hearts of the leaders of Russia and Ukraine to find ways to bring this conflict to an end, to move forward in ways that would lead to peace, and that people would be drawn to the One in whom all lasting peace is found, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The following prayer is offered for your use, individually, as families and in your congregations:

Gracious God, we come to You as people who know we have fallen short of Your call, who are in daily need of Your forgiveness and grace, and who have no lasting hope apart from the promises we have in Jesus. And yet we come with thankful and expectant hearts, knowing that You have promised to hear

and to answer prayer.

We pray for You to be working in the hearts and the lives of the people in Russia and the Ukraine who are caught in this senseless war and whose lives are being torn apart because of the conflict. We pray for the families who have been separated from their loved ones, for those who have been physically hurt as a result of the fighting, and for those lives that have been lost. We pray, Lord, that You would open doors for peace talks and negotiations to happen that would bring an end to the war and that would save the lives of many for whom our Lord Jesus died.

Work through the nations of our world, through their governments, the United Nations, and through those leaders who have authority and opportunity to influence and impact what is happening in Christ-honoring ways. Be with our missionaries and mission agencies — that their work would be a witness to the love You have for all people, and to the desire You have for Your world that we would live in peace.

Help us to never lose sight of the promises we have in Jesus and to never lose hope in the One who, through His cross and resurrection from the dead, has overcome the world. In His most holy and precious name we pray. Amen.

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

—John 16:33 NIV



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers	Karen Waugaman(E) Nancy Pierce(L)
Lectors	Jill Wranich(E) Dave Lindeman(L)
Comm Assistants	Nick & Jill Wranich(E) Deb & Mollie Bouch(L)
Acolytes	Mitchell Wranich(E) Emily Bouch(L)
Greeters	Sandy & Gary Duncan(E) Deb & Mollie Bouch(L)
Camera Operators	Robert John(E) Bill Bouch(L)

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	Christine Lettrich
Sexton	Michael Craft
Organist/Choir Director/Director of Music	Rebecca Veith
Sr. Choir Accompanist	Elizabeth Cramer

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.

GRACE
happens



St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA

All that I am and
all that I have,
belongs to,
and comes
from God.