

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

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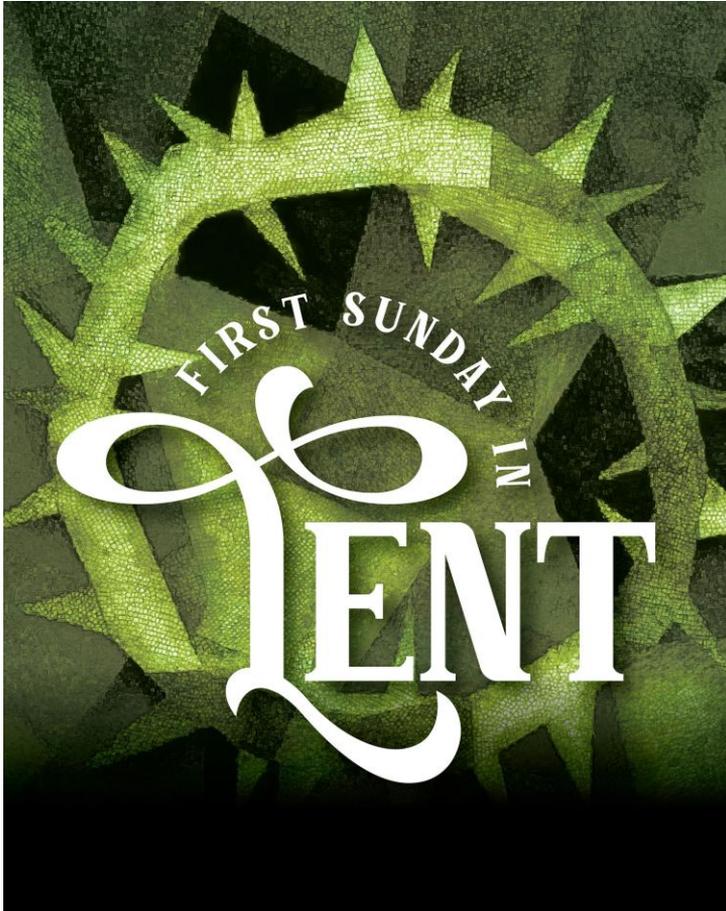
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

February 22, 2026

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 worship this morning as we celebrate the **First Sunday of 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:

Your witness, O Lord, preserved in this world from one generation to another, is steadfast and sure, so enable us to be faithful and true, that generations to come may receive Your Word of Life through us. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Consolator"

arr. Carlson

***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

***ENTRANCE HYMN**

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

LBW 229

***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. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



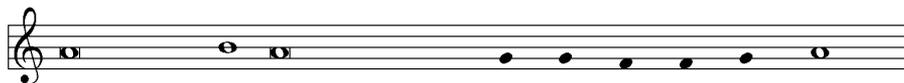
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide now the people of Your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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:

Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7

A The First Lesson is from the second & third chapters of Genesis. ¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

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.

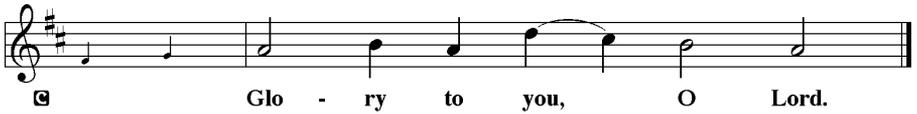
**⁶I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.”
Then You forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

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

GOSPEL:

Matthew 4:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.



Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

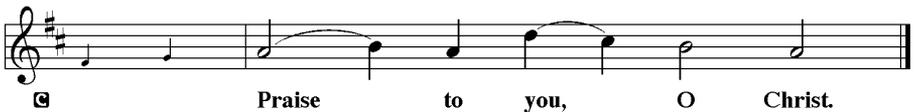
⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN**

"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

LBW 99

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

Let us pray that the light of Christ may shine upon the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

A brief silence

Father, thank you for Jesus. Thank you for letting him be tempted just as we are when we're at our weakest! Thank you because he stands with us, and for us, for causing him to dwell in us through the worst temptations and struggles we face. 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.

ANTHEM

"Softly and Tenderly"

arr. Drennan

*OFFERTORY



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.

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.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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



C 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 197, 212, 479, WOV 709, 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

*For those that require special dietary restrictions, we now have gluten-free, communion wafers.
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



C 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.

C A - men

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

LBW 343

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Grand Chorus"

Guilmant

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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.





REVERSE LENT CALENDAR

*Instead of giving something UP during Lent,
please consider giving 40 "somethings!"*

February 18	Soup	March 15	Bath/Hand Soap
February 19	Peanut Butter	March 16	Snack Crackers
February 20	Bar Soap	March 17	Syrup
February 21	Boxed Potatoes	March 18	Pancake Mix
February 22	Shelf Stable Juice	March 19	Canned Fruit
February 23	Grape Jelly	March 20	Soup
February 24	Tuna Helper	March 21	Cake Mix & icing
February 25	Macaroni/Cheese	March 22	Flour
February 26	Canned Fruit	March 23	Canned Beef Stew
February 27	Spaghetti Sauce	March 24	Shampoo
March 1	Alfredo Sauce	March 25	<i>Your favorite food</i>
March 2	Feminine Products	March 26	Kleenex
March 3	Cat/Dog Food	March 27	Disposable razors/men/women
March 4	Canned Meat	March 28	Canned Fruit
March 5	Baked Beans	March 29	Sugar
March 6	Box of crackers	March 30	Laundry Detergent
March 7	Rice	March 31	Feminine Products
March 8	Flour	April 1	Cleaning Products
March 9	Pasta	April 2	Toothbrush/Toothpaste
March 10	Can Ravioli style	April 3	Hand Soap
March 11	Cereal	April 4	Deodorant: Mens/womens
March 12	Canned Meat	April 5	Cleaning Products as Jesus cleansed us from all sin !
March 13	Tomato Soup		
March 14	Granola Bars		



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."**

Monday Bible Study in Lent

Pastor Johnson will be leading a Bible Study on the book of Mark each **Monday at 7:00 p.m.** in Lent beginning on February 23rd.

This is a very basic Bible Study designed for beginners.

Come journey through Mark!

Pastor's Sunday School Class:

Adult Sunday School

Pastor Johnson's class will be studying the book of Acts of the Apostles. Come journey with Apostolic Zeal!

Wednesday Evening Pastors' Study:

Adult Catechism, 7:00 pm

This review is good for those who are preparing to join the congregation as an adult, for adult baptism or for those who just want to brush up on their catechism.

February 25 th	Ten Commandments
March 4 th	Apostles' Creed
March 11 th	Lord's Prayer
March 18 th	The Sacraments, Confession
March 25 th	Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy



Catechism



Lenten Men's Prayer Breakfasts

Saturday, February 28, March 7, 14, 21
at 8:00 a.m.

The men of St. John's will be meeting Saturday mornings for breakfast and study. Following the meal will be a brief program concluding by 9:00 a.m.



KMA Community Lenten Worship Services Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Feb. 24	First Methodist	Pastor Matthew Vatalare
Mar. 3	St. Paul's	Pastor Joe Weister
Mar 10	Kittanning	Pastor Andrew Laddusaw
Mar. 17	Living Water	Pastor Johnson
Mar. 24	St. Luke's U.C.C.	Major Brent Carlson

KMA Lenten Luncheons Schedule Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m.

Feb 25	Grace Presbyterian	Rev. John Hopkins
Mar 4	St. Paul's Episcopal	Rev. Brandon Cooper
Mar 11	St. Mary's Catholic	Father Eric Dinga
Mar 18	First Baptist	Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Mar 25	First Methodist / Hope Center	Rev. Ross Perrine

Habitat Luncheon February 22, 2026

Social Ministry & Fellowship Committee will be holding a luncheon On Sunday, February 22nd following worship to raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

Please place your donations to benefit Armstrong County Habitat for Humanity by marking your offering envelope "Habitat Luncheon" in the space marked "other" and place in the offering plate during worship.

Our menu is: pork, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, vegetable, applesauce, cake and beverages.

*May you have a repentant Lent
And a joyous Easter!*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday 2/22	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	After worship	Habitat Luncheon
	12:30 p.m.	Youth Service Project
Monday 2/23	7:00 p.m.	PJ's Study (Book of Mark)
Tuesday 2/24	1:00 p.m.	Newsletter Mailing
	7:00 p.m.	KMA Worship (First Methodist)
Wednesday 2/25	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	Noon	KMA Luncheon
	6:15 p.m.	Bells
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
	7:30 p.m.	Choir
Thursday 2/26	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Saturday 2/28	8:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday 3/1	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion

Free CPR Certification at St. John's Church March 14, 2026



We're excited to share that **Run With Heart Foundation** will be hosting a **FREE CPR Certification** class right here at our church on **Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 9:00 AM** — open to everyone and **completely free of charge**.

This hands-on class will include **CPR certification and training on the use of an AED, just like the new one here at our church**, giving participants the confidence to respond quickly and effectively in an emergency. These are lifesaving skills that can truly make a difference for your family, friends, and community.

Following the CPR certification, there will be an **optional First Aid class** for those who would like to continue their training.

• **First Aid Class:** \$40 per person

Checks Payable to: Run with Heart Foundation

Thanks,

Tabitha Bowser

Executive Director

Run With Heart Foundation

SIGN UP
in the
Narthex

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister
Lector
Communion Assistants
Acolyte
Welcome team
Camera Operator

Karen Waugaman
Melissa Venesky
Lori Young, Amber Zurn
Anna Venesky
The Young Family
Keith Livengood

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry
Secretary
Sexton
Organist/Choir Director/Director of Music
Sr. Choir Accompanist

Julie Smith
Angela B. Clever
Patrick Pastor
Rebecca Veith
Elizabeth Cramer



The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God, and in loving honor of Mary Jane Dawson's birthday.

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.

*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.*

GRACE
happens



St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA