

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Home: 724-548-5512

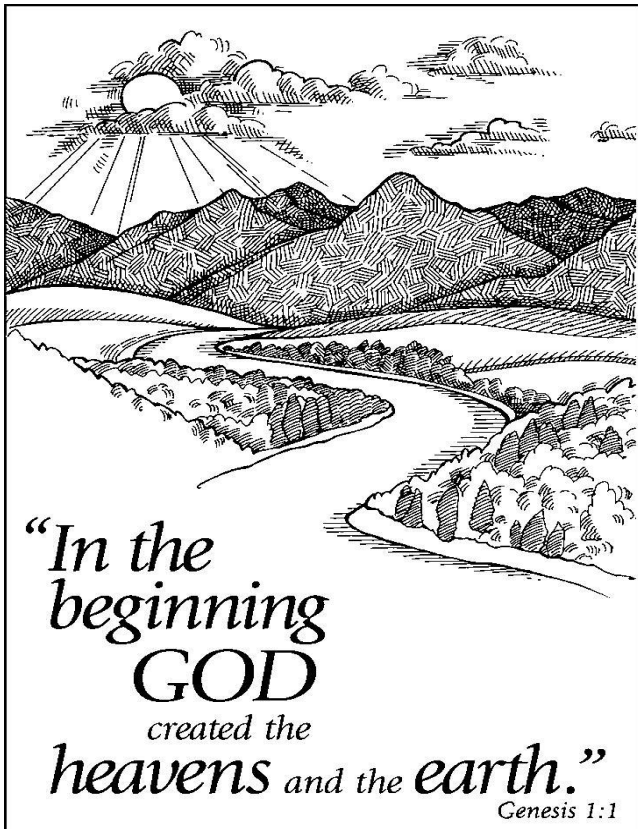
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

January 7, 2024

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 **Baptism of our Lord**. 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:

Glorious God, as You poured out Your Holy Spirit out upon Jesus at the river Jordan, so pour Your Holy Spirit upon those who are gathered here that the words on our lips and the songs in our hearts might reflect gratitude and devotion to You for all we hear and see of Your amazing grace and constant love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE *"Christe, unser Herr zum Jordan Kam"* *Bach*

***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

***OPENING HYMN** *"Oh, Love, How Deep"* *LBW 88*

***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.



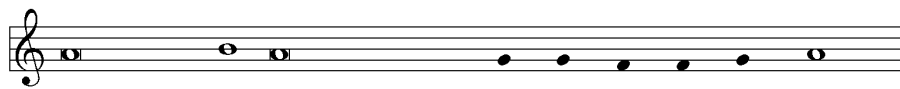
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



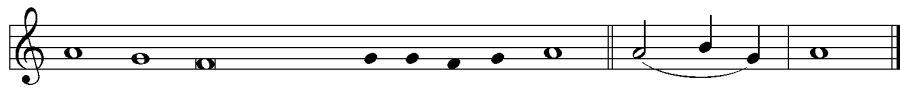
G Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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

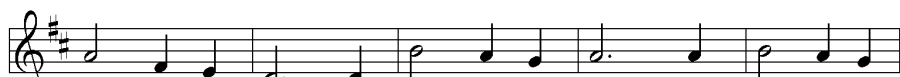


A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

*HYMN OF PRAISE



A This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



☩ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

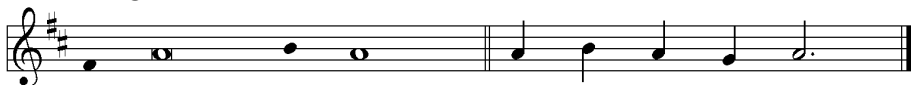


This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY



☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; 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 1:1-5

A The First Lesson is from the first chapter of Genesis. In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while the Spirit from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

A Here ends the reading.

The Catechism on The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God's Word and by his command.

WHAT IS THIS WORD?

In Matthew 28 our Lord Jesus Christ says:

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

WHAT BENEFITS DOES GOD GIVE IN BAPTISM?

In Baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised.

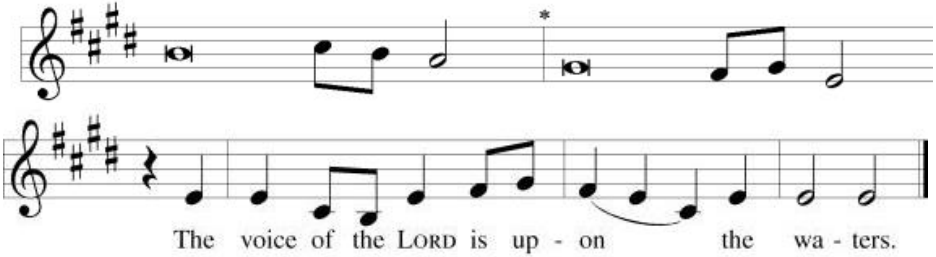
WHAT IS GOD'S PROMISE?

In Mark 16 our Lord Jesus Christ says:

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved;
but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

PSALM

PSALM 29



¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

**²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

**⁴The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

**⁶he makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

**⁸The voice of the LORD makes the | oak trees writhe
and strips the | forests bare.**

⁹And in the temple | of the LORD
all are | crying, "Glory!"

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as | king forevermore.**

¹¹The LORD shall give strength | to his people;
the LORD shall give his people the bless- | ing of peace. R

SECOND LESSON

ACTS 19:1-7

A The second lesson is from the nineteenth chapter of Acts.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."
³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered,

"Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — ⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

A Here ends the reading.

***VERSE**

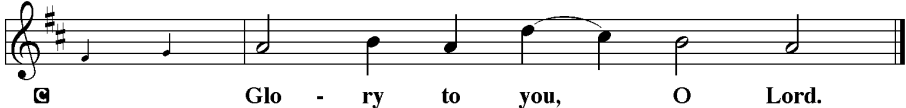


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL**

MARK 1:4-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

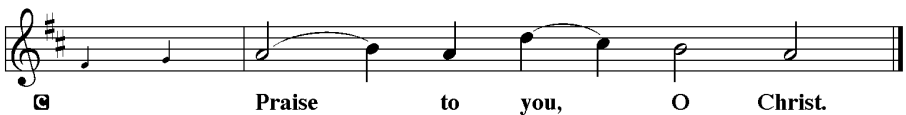


Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

***THE PRAYERS**

With gratitude for the gift of Christ, let us draw near to our heavenly Father in prayer, asking his mercy for the Church, the world, and all who need his loving-kindness.

Most holy God, give us ears to hear your voice above the floodwaters of this world. Give us lips to cry “Glory!” Give us hearts to love you above all things. Give us faith to trust you in all things.

Lord in Your mercy,

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

***PEACE**

P The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C And also with you.

ANTHEM

“Wade in the Water”

Arr. Hayes

***OFFERTORY**

☩ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

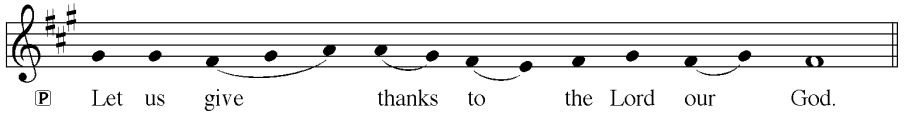
A Let us pray.

A Blessed are You,

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.
 ☩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.



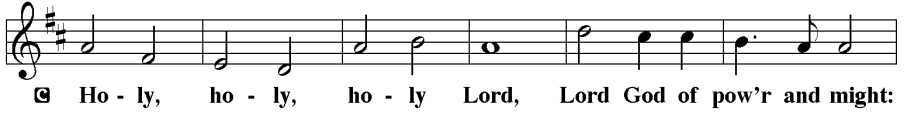
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

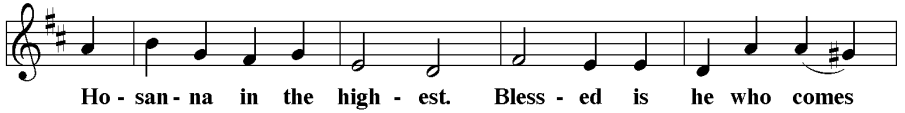
P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:




C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC 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**



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, 188, 189, 709

***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.
Please inform Pastor if you need a gluten-free communion wafer.*

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....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 ✕ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



C A - men

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LBW 87

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Plain Jeu"

Couperin

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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 after worship.

Women's Bible Study



will be held at King's restaurant on Thursday, January 11th at noon. Any questions, please contact Rose Montgomery at rosetrix_38@comcast.net. All are welcome!

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	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 1/8	7:00 p.m.	Council
Wednesday 1/10	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	5:30 p.m.	New Bells
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:00 p.m.	PJ's Bible Study
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 1/11	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	Noon	Women's Bible Study
		At Kings
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Saturday 1/13	8:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday 1/14	8:30 p.m.	Rock of our Salvation Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	7:00 to 11:00 p.m.	Youth Group .5 Lock-in

Sunday Jan. 14th: Youth Group

½ Lock In! 7pm-11pm

No School the 15th

**Rides Home Provided for kids,
for parents who have to work on the 15th**

Friday Jan. 19th: WINTER JAM!

Cost: \$15 at the Door!

All ages event! See below for details

Flower Calendar

The flower chart for 2018 is in the narthex. Please sign up for the dates that you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

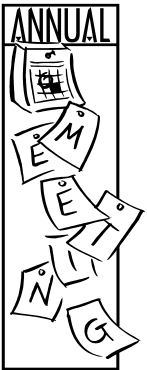
The price of altar flowers is \$50.00. Thank you!



January Men's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, January 13th at 8:00 a.m.

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



Annual Congregational Meeting

Scheduled for

January 28th, 2024

Our annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, January 28th. We will review the Bulletin of Reports, approve a budget for 2024 and elect an endowment trustee.

Annual Reports

All Committee chairs, Sunday school presidents, organization presidents and treasurers, please submit your reports to the church office by January 8th. Our goal is to have the reports ready 2 weeks prior to the Annual Meeting in January. With everyone's cooperation, we can do it! If possible, please e-mail your report to:

stjohnskittanning@windstream.net

Katie's Cupboard Winter Supply List

Personal Care Items

- Shampoo/conditioner, Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes
- Moisturizer, Pads/tampons, Diapers/wipes
- Deodorant, Chapstick, Hats, Gloves, Scarves, Handwarmers

Paper Products

- Paper towels, Toilet paper, Kleenex

Nonperishable Foods

- Peanut butter and jelly in plastic
- Boxed/bagged grains/beans: rice, couscous, quinoa, red beans, white beans
- Pasta: dry pasta, bagged pasta meals, mac n' cheese
- Pasta sauce in plastic
- Cereal: cold and hot
- Peanut butter and other snack crackers
- Applesauce, Dried fruits, Granola bars
- Canned complete meals (Dinty Moore, Lasagna, Spaghetti O's)
- Canned vegetables, Canned fruits
- Dry Goods (coffee, hot chocolate, tea, flour, powdered milk, sugar), Cake mixes, cornbread mixes, muffin/pastry mixes
- Canned meats (SPAM, Vienna sausage, tuna, chicken)

The Catechism on The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

HOW CAN WATER DO SUCH GREAT THINGS?

It is not water that does these things, but God's Word with the water and our trust in this Word. Water by itself is only water, but with the Word of God it is a life-giving water which by grace gives the new birth through the Holy Spirit.

St. Paul writes in Titus 3:

“He saved us...in virtue of his own mercy, by washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life. The saying is sure.”

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister
Lector
Communion

Acolytes

Welcome Team
Camera Operators

Nancy Pierce
Rose Montgomery
Julie Smith, Karen Waugaman
Lance and Christine Whiteman
Stella Venesky, Emily Bouch,
Anne Venesky, William Bouch
Whiteman Family
Bill Bouch

STAFF MEMBERS

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

Julie Smith
TBA
Colin Toy
Rebecca Veith
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



at
St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA