

# St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

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Church Web Site: [www.stjohnskittanning.org](http://www.stjohnskittanning.org)

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The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

**August 24, 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 **Festival of St. Bartholomew, Apostle**. 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:*

*We praise You, Ascended Christ, as You continue to watch over Your faithful servants from Your Father's holy kingdom. We thank You for Your Holy Spirit which sustains us and gives us new life. Oh Holy Trinity, accept our humble worship of You. Help us focus our lives on You. Through Jesus the ascended Lord we pray. Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

*"Preludio"*

*Rheinberger*

**\*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**

*"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

*LBW 546*

**\*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.**



☩ 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who gave to Your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and to preach Your Word: Grant that Your Church may love what he believed and preach what he taught; 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: Exodus 19:1–6**

**A** The First Lesson is from the 19th chapter of Exodus.

<sup>1</sup> On the third new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the wilderness of Sinai.

<sup>2</sup> They set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, <sup>3</sup> while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup> 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; <sup>6</sup> and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

**A** Here ends the reading.

**PSALM: Psalm 12**

Help me, LORD, for there is no godly one left;  
the faithful have vanished from among us.

**<sup>2</sup>Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor;  
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.**

<sup>3</sup>Oh, that the LORD would cut off all smooth tongues,  
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!

**<sup>4</sup>Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail;  
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"**

<sup>5</sup>"Because the needy are oppressed, and the poor cry out in misery,  
I will rise up," says the LORD, "and give them the help they long for."

**<sup>6</sup>The words of the LORD are pure words,  
like silver refined from ore and purified seven times in the  
fire.**

<sup>7</sup>O LORD, watch over us  
and save us from this generation forever.

**<sup>8</sup>The wicked prowl on every side,  
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.**

**SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 12:27–31a**

**A** The Second Lesson is from the 12th chapter of 1 Corinthians.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

**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: John 1:43–51**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**\*HYMN** "By All Your Saints in Warfare" LBW 178 (vs. 1, 17, 3)

**SERMON A STILL MORE EXCELLENT WAY**

**THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM** LBW Page 121

**\*THE PRAYERS**

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and for one another.

*A brief silence*

Heavenly Father, thank you for showing us what you would have us do, even when it is hard. Give us strength and grace to worship you in the beauty of holiness, and to share your love, justice, and mercy with others. Thank you for establishing for us a kingdom that can never be shaken. 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.**

**OFFERING** "Majesty" Hayford  
*Melissa Venesky, Saxophonist*

**\*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** 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

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

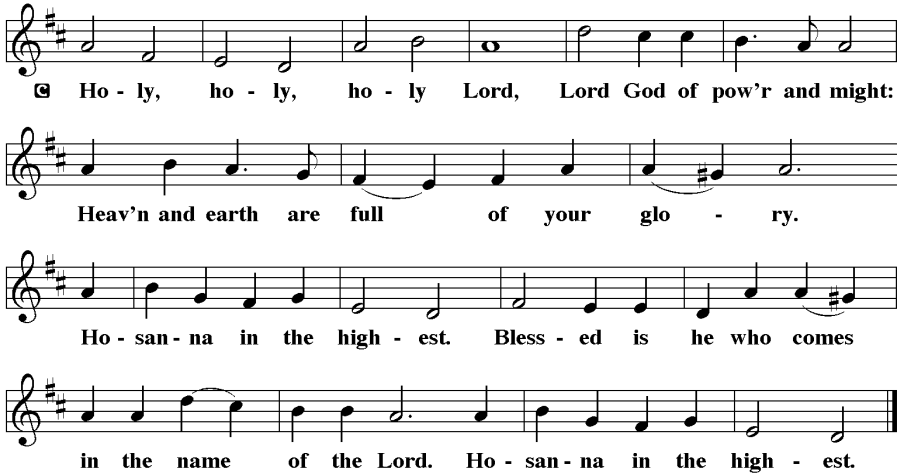
☩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

☩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ 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 the great shepherd of your flock, Christ, our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the age. And so, with patriarchs and prophets, with the apostle Bartholomew, and with all the company of all heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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**

**\*ANGUS DEI**



**☩** 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 198, 203, 212, 221*

**\*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.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

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

**C** Amen

**\*CANTICLE**



**☩** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**\*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.



**CLOSING HYMN**

*"Borning Cry"*

WOV 770

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Postlude-Cantique"*

*Dubois*

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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.*

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

<b>Sunday 8/24</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
<b>Monday 8/25</b>	6:00 p.m.	Mutual Ministry
	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Music
<b>Sunday 8/31</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship



**Sacrament of  
Holy Baptism**

**Today we welcome into the Church through  
the Sacrament of Holy Baptism  
BECKETT EMILIA LAMBERT,  
daughter of Ian & Alycia Lambert.**

*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.*

*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.*



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH



## **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."**



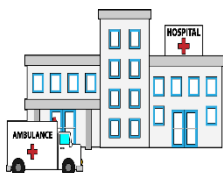
## **Internet Streaming St. John's Live Broadcast**

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.youtube.com/@st.johnskittanning2251>

**Don't forget to check out your Church Web Site:**

[www.stjohnskittanning.org](http://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.



## **Heading into the hospital?**

***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.***

## Katie's Cupboard



With long summer days & weekends with insufficient access to food as school is out of session, bubbles, coloring books and sidewalk chalk helps entertain the little ones at home or daycare and are always welcome.

**Katie's Cupboard @ St Johns will be needed more than ever!** If you should bring your items on a Sunday, please leave on the cart in the Gathering Space. *It is still **always possible** to leave in the cupboard daily **as the Holy Spirit moves you!** This way we can bless the cupboard thru the week and weekends consistently.*

Pray over this, when you are shopping what needs do YOU address for your household that you could purchase to bless this ministry as well?

**Please remember you are feeding Jesus' flock**

**No opened, used, home canned or expired items please.**



## Women's Bible Study

will be canceled for August.

See you again September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Throughout the Summer we are holding two Sunday morning worship services; 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. There is no reason to miss praising our Lord!



**The price for altar flowers is now \$70 a set.**

## Reminder

When ordering altar flowers please turn the pink slip in to the office with all relevant information. Thank you.

**Disaster Relief:** The Social Ministry project is collecting items to be inserted in 5 gallon “flood buckets” for disasters. These buckets are being sent where emergency relief efforts are needed. . If you would like to donate money towards making the health kits, please mark your envelope - **Health Kits**.

### ***Bucket Checklist***

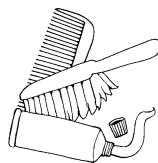
- 1 five-gallon bucket with lid
- 1 jug bleach (1/2 gal. or smaller)
- 2 large trash bags (Contractor 3 mil)
- 1 roll paper towels
- 2 rags
- Comet or scouring cleanser
- Pine Sol or liquid cleaner
- scrub brush
- gloves, 1 pair each, size L preferred
  - leather
  - cotton
  - rubber (reusable, i.e. Playtex, dishwashing type)



### ***Health Care Kit Checklist***

(Pack in 2-gallon plastic storage bag or tote bag)

- 1 bath towel
- 1 wash cloth (optional)
- 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)
- 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)
- 1 toothbrush (individually sealed)
- 1 pack of floss (optional)
- 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)
- 1 comb
- 1 deodorant
- 1 nail clippers (optional)



## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers	Karen Waugaman (E) Sara Shafer (L)
Lector	Melissa Venesky (E) Margherita King (L)
Comm Assistants	Jill & Nick Wranich (E) Sue Neal & Christine Whiteman (L)
Acolytes	Mitchell Wranich (E) Callie Adkins (L)
Camera Operators	Nick Wranich (E) Keith Livengood (L)

## STAFF MEMBERS

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



**The flowers on the altar** this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Beckett Emilia Lambert's Holy Baptism by her loving grandparents, Kenneth & Margherita King.

## 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**