

# 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](http://www.stjohnskittanning.org)

Church e-mail: [stjohnskittanning@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnskittanning@gmail.com)

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

**September 4, 2022**

**8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE**



*Like a  
Tree PLANTED by  
Streams of Water*

— 2001 —

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 **Thirteenth 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:*

*Loving Father, whatever stage of life we are in – infant, child, adult, elder – we know we can turn to You for comfort. Thank you for our life, may we use it to serve and honor You. Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

“*Vision*”

*Reinberger*

**\*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**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

“*Let the Whole Creation Cry*”

*LBW 242*

**\*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**



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



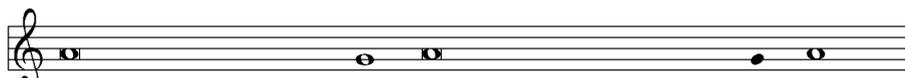
Ⓐ For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓑ Lord, have mer - cy.

\*Those who are able, please stand

LBW—Green Hymnal    WOV—Blue Hymnal



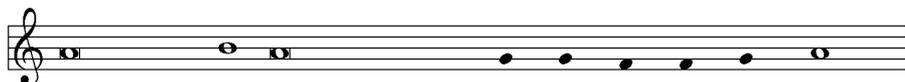
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



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



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

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE



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



**Q** 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 eternal God, You know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In Your love and by Your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**FIRST LESSON:**

**Deuteronomy 30:15–20**

**A** The First Lesson is from the thirtieth chapter of Deuteronomy.

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns

away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

**A** Here ends the reading.

**PSALM:**

**Psalm 1**

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**<sup>2</sup>Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on his law day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**<sup>4</sup>It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**<sup>6</sup>For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

**SECOND LESSON:**

**Philemon 1:1–21**

**A** The Second Lesson is from the first chapter of Philemon.

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker <sup>2</sup> and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, <sup>6</sup> and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup> For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, <sup>9</sup> yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— <sup>10</sup> I appeal to

you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) <sup>12</sup> I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. <sup>13</sup> I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. <sup>15</sup> For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

**A** Here ends the reading.

**\*VERSE**



**GOSPEL:**

**Luke 14:25–33**

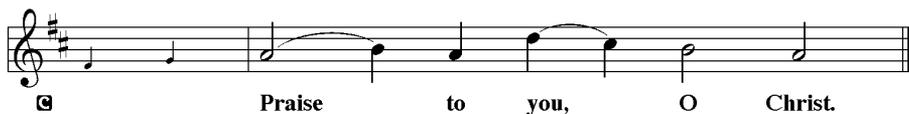
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the fourteenth chapter.



<sup>25</sup> Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup> Or what king,

going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

**L** The Gospel of the Lord.



## CHILDREN'S SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” LBW 408

## SERMON

### \*NICENE CREED

**C** 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

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

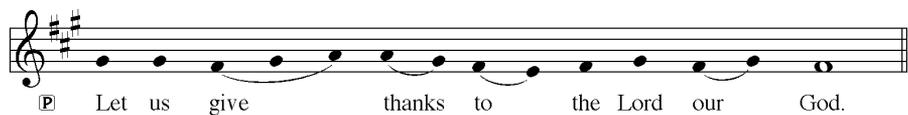
*A brief silence*

Gracious Father, teach us what true discipleship is. By your Spirit, give us the faith and steadfastness to bear its cost. Thank you for the grace to choose the life you offer through the death and resurrection of your Son. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

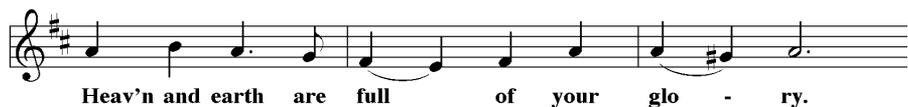
*(Other intercessions are offered.)*



## 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:



## 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**



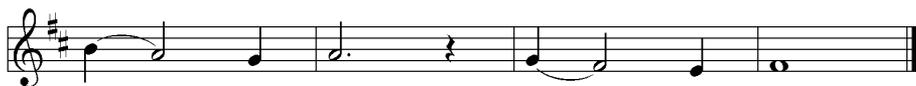
**☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**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, 203, 214, WOV 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.*

*(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.



☞ A - - - men

**CLOSING HYMN**

*"Eternal Father Strong to Save"*

*LBW 467*

**\*DISMISSAL**

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Fanfare"*

*Ascher*

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**Please welcome Pastor James F. Neal, S.T.S.** as he supplies today while Pastor Johnson is away. Pastor Neal is a retired pastor, husband to Susan and a father and grandfather. He is a member of the Society of the Holy Trinity, renowned Theologian, and general all around nice guy. His primary role these days is as a house husband and very active grandparent, (the highest of callings!). We are blessed to have him lead worship this day.

*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

<b>TODAY</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
<b>Monday 9/5</b>		Happy Labor Day! - Office closed
<b>Tuesday 9/6</b>	7:00 p.m.	First Communion meeting – Parents
<b>Wednesday 9/7</b>	5:30 p.m.	Junior Choir
	6:00 p.m.	New Bells
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Bells
	8:00 p.m.	Senior Choir
<b>Thursday 9/8</b>	12:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study @ Garda's
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism meeting – Parents
<b>Saturday 9/10</b>	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
<b>Sunday 9/11</b>	9:45 a.m.	Rally Day Breakfast
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group Kick-off



### Rally Day Breakfast

#### September 11<sup>th</sup> @ 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall

Join us as we kick off a new year of Sunday School with our Rally Day intergenerational celebration, including light breakfast and orientation for all students! Come and meet your teacher! Games & fun!  
**Come join the fun and fellowship!**



### September Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> 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 with everything concluding by 9:00 a.m.



**Catechism**

### Catechism Classes to Begin

Catechism classes for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will begin with a Parents only session on **September 8<sup>th</sup>**. **September 15<sup>th</sup>** will begin the student sessions at 2:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. each Thursday.

JOIN  
the  
STUDY GROUP

**Pastor's Study**

Beginning **September 14th** at 7:00 pm

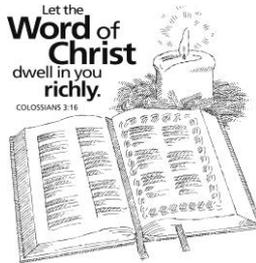
We will begin by looking at the Book of Revelation.

The study will follow the book, "Power and Purpose," a book written by Pastor Russell Lackey who says that we have been asking all the wrong questions and therefore losing our focus on what the book is really trying to say.

Come explore this very misunderstood book of the Bible.

***This study is for entry level students—***

*You do not need to know anything about the Bible in order to attend!*



**Pastor's Sunday School Class:**  
**Power and Purpose:**  
**the Book of Revelation for Today**

by The Most Holy Reverend Dr. Russell L. Lackey

He writes: "The one consistent mistake I see students make when reading the book of Revelation is that they ask the wrong question..."

"...But what if the question of Revelation isn't how the world will end, but rather, who is the Lord of this world? Suddenly, everything changes..."

*You're Invited:*

Bible Study on the book of Revelation  
in

Pastor's Sunday School Class

Beginning **September 18th**, 2022

**This is a beginner level Bible Study.**

*Absolutely no knowledge of the Bible  
is needed—in fact, it's discouraged (just kidding).*



## Children's hour will be back 2 days a week!

**WEDNESDAY or THURSDAY**

9:30-11:00am

ages 2 ½ -5yrs

**Sign up Anytime**

Cost: \$1 wk Donation

Join us....for our Fun-and-Faith-Filled, exceptional program that is available for all potty-trained children ages 2 ½ to 5 yrs old. Moms, Grandparents, Caregivers, Babies all are welcome! Every week we present a structured Children's program that blends preschool concepts with fun Biblical lessons. Children develop their creativity and imagination with crafts, games, Bible stories, lessons, snacks, and hands-on activities to learn Biblical values and have preschool fun! The cost is just a donation of \$1.00 per class/NOT required to pay to attend!

**FALL 2022 begins Wednesday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> & Thursday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> @ St. John's Lutheran Church 218 N. Jefferson, right next to the Library!** Please join us or tell someone that may be interested!!...

Call 724-548-2051 or email: [stjohnskittanning@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnskittanning@gmail.com)



Progressive Workshop of Armstrong County

### Progressive Workshop Luncheon

**Sunday, September 25, 2022**

following 11:00 a.m. Worship service.

Sponsored by the Fellowship and Social Ministry Committees and Thrivent.

Bring your appetite and your generous donations to support the Progressive Workshop. If you are unable to attend the luncheon, but would like to make a donation, please mark your offering envelope: "Progressive Workshop" and place in the offering plate during worship.

**Thank you for your support!**



**The flower chart for 2022 is posted in the narthex.**

There are still dates available to sign up for flowers that you would like to place on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one or special event. Flowers are \$50.00.



## **Katie's Cupboard**

More than 38 million people-including 12 million children-in the U.S. experience food insecurity, leaving families to make hard choices between paying bills or buying groceries. Together, let's help everyone get enough to eat.

### **Suggested food pantry items:**

Canned tuna, ham or chicken  
Pasta sauce, Macaroni and cheese  
Beef stew, chili, hearty soups  
Peanut butter & jelly  
Canned fruit, cereals  
Toiletries & Paper products

Donations to Katie's Cupboard can be left in the church parlor or in the outside cupboard at any time. Also, St. Johns accepts your donations of monetary gifts to buy items to stock the cupboard. We are also looking for volunteers to coordinate the stocking & maintaining of Katie's Cupboard. For more information, please contact Tammy Fleeger @ 724-664-1773.

**Thank you for your support!**

## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers	Nancy Pierce (E) Sara Shafer (L)
Lectors	Roger Mechling (E) Lance Whiteman (L)
Comm Assistants	Lori Young & Amber Zurn (E) Brett & Megan Taylor (L)
Acolytes	Brenna Zurn (E)
Camera Operators	Landon Crissman (L) Robert John (E) Keith Livengood (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



**The flowers on the altar** this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in loving of memory of Mary Baker from Frank Baker and family.

## 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