

# St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

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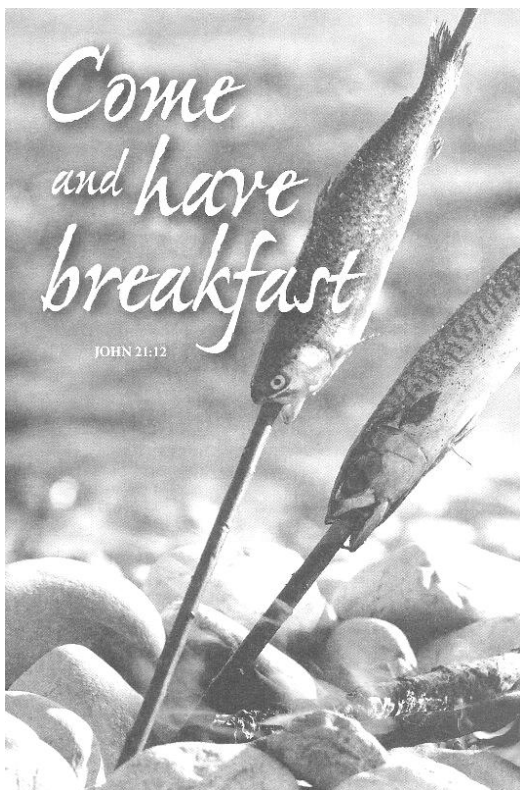
Church Web Site: [www.stjohnskittanning.org](http://www.stjohnskittanning.org)

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

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

**May 4, 2025**

**11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE**



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

*O Blessed Savior, who did stoop to rescue us, sinners worthy of eternal judgment, we pray that Your love will so penetrate every part of our being that we will think, speak, and act in the same spirit of love. Amen.*

## PRELUDE

*"Meditation"*

Lee

**\*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

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN***"Lift High the Cross"*

LBW 377

**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.



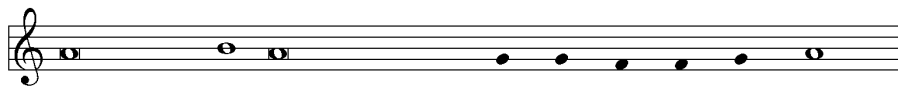
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ 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.

O God, by the humiliation of Your Son You lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant Your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

**NEW BELLS**

*Siyahamba*

*arr. McChesney*

**FIRST LESSON:**

**Acts 9:1–20**

**A** The First Lesson is from the ninth chapter of Acts.

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. <sup>4</sup> And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” <sup>5</sup> And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” <sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”

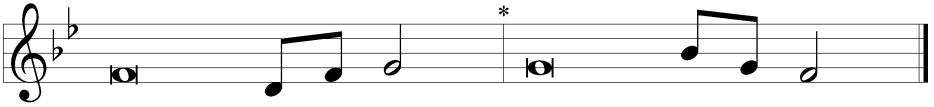
<sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup> For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” <sup>17</sup> So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; <sup>19</sup> and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

**A** Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

PSALM 30



I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lift- | ed me up\*  
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.

**2O Lord my God, I cried | out to you,\*  
and you restored | me to health.**

<sup>3</sup>You brought me up, O Lord, | from the dead; \*  
you restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.

**4Sing to the Lord, you ser- | vants of his; \*  
give thanks for the remembrance | of his holiness.**

<sup>5</sup>For his wrath endures but the twinkling | of an eye, \*  
his favor | for a lifetime.

**6Weeping may | spend the night, \*  
but joy comes | in the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never | be disturbed. \*  
You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong | as the mountains."

**8Then you | hid your face, \*  
and I was | filled with fear.**

<sup>9</sup>I cried to | you, O Lord; \*  
I pleaded with | the Lord, saying,

**10"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit? \*  
Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?**

<sup>11</sup>Hear, O Lord, and have mer- | cy upon me; \*  
O Lord, | be my helper."

**12You have turned my wailing | into dancing; \*  
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.**

<sup>13</sup>Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing; \*  
O Lord my God, I will give you | thanks forever.

**SECOND LESSON:**

**Revelation 5:11–14**

**A** The Second Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Revelation

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures  
and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads  
and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> saying with a loud voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup> And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the  
earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

<sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

**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 21:1–19**

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 21st chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. <sup>8</sup> The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave

it to them, and so with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."

<sup>16</sup> He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him,

"Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John,

do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third

time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know

everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my

sheep. <sup>18</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to

dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old,

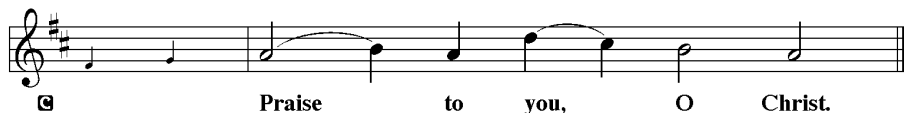
you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry

you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup> (This he said to show by what kind

of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him,

"Follow me."

**L** The Gospel of the Lord.



## CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY *"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"*

LBW 151

## 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

Rejoicing in the glory of the resurrection dawn, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

You feed us with Your word and holy meal. Bind together all who eat at Jesus' table, that we may be a visible sign of Your presence in the world. 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**

### ANTHEM

*"Still, My Soul Be Still"*  
Karina Blose, Clarinet

*arr. Koerts*

### \*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.

♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♪ 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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for He is the true Passover Lamb who gave Himself to take away our sin, who by His death has destroyed death, and by His rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

### \*Sanctus

♪ 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**

**☩ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*LBW 212, 210, 139, 148, 145*

**\*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.*

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....We give You thanks almighty God, that You have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in Your mercy You would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of 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.



**RECESSIONAL HYMN** *“The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”* LBW 135

**\*DISMISSAL**

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”* arr. Young

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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.*

*Annual Spring Concert*

*Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

*At 7:00 p.m.*

**Today**

**MAGNIFIED!**

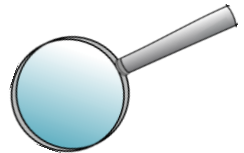
**Vacation Bible School 2025!**

**June 16-19 . . . . 9:00-11:30am**

**Kids Pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*Sign up at*

[www.tinyurl.com/stjohnskittanningvbs2025](http://www.tinyurl.com/stjohnskittanningvbs2025)



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

<b>Today</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	Noon	Bell Concert Practice
	5:15 p.m.	Vocal Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT
<b>Monday 5/5</b>	7:00 p.m.	Property
<b>Wednesday 5/7</b>	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
<b>Thursday 5/8</b>	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	Noon	Women's Bible Study
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
	<b>National Day of Prayer</b>	
<b>Saturday 5/10</b>	8:00 p.m.	Men's Breakfast
<b>Sunday 5/11</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Happy Mother's Day

## Katie's Cupboard



With long summer days & weekends with insufficient access to food as school will soon be 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.**



## **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.



### **Children's Hour:**

Children's Hour is every  
Wednesday

from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

**Last classes to be held May 14 & 15<sup>th</sup>!**

## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister  
Lector  
Comm Assistants

Acolytes

Welcome Team  
Camera Operator

Kay Thorell  
Richard Thorell  
Nancy Pierce & Sara Shafer  
Noelle & Jamie Smoyer  
William Bouch, Logan Duncan,  
Kendall Bailey, Quinn Kellner  
Jessican and Quinten Bailey  
Bill Bouch

## STAFF MEMBERS

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

Julie Smith  
Angela B. Clever  
TBA  
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.

*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*



at

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Kittanning, PA