

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

July 5, 2026

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



God Bless America

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 **Sixth Sunday of 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:

We bow before You, Lord God, seeking to serve You wherever You place us. Guide our lives in faith to discern Your will. Give us courage to speak and act as instruments of Your love and truth. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

America the Beautiful

Bates

***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**

"God of Our Fathers"

LBW 567

***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



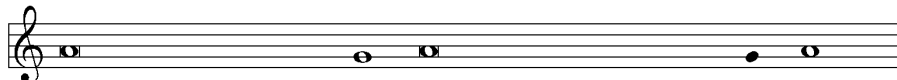
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



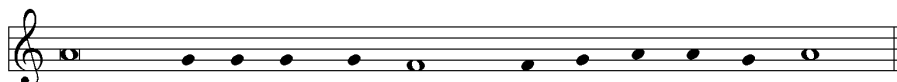
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



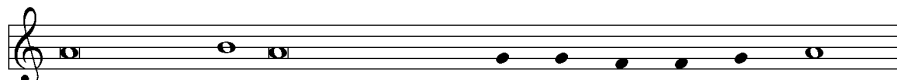
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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.

God of glory and love, peace comes from You alone. Send us as peacemakers and witnesses to Your kingdom, and fill our hearts with joy in Your promises of salvation; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen**

FIRST LESSON:

Zechariah 9:9–12

A The First Lesson is from the ninth chapter of Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

Psalms 145:8–15

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

**⁹The LORD is loving to everyone
and his compassion is over all his works.**

¹⁰All your works praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful servants bless you.

**¹¹They make known the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power;**

¹²that the peoples may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

¹⁴The LORD is faithful in all his words
and merciful in all his deeds.

**¹⁵The LORD upholds all those who fall;
he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

SECOND LESSON:

Romans 7:15–25a

A The Second Lesson is from the seventh chapter of Romans.

¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want,
but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree
with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin
that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that

is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

A Here ends the reading

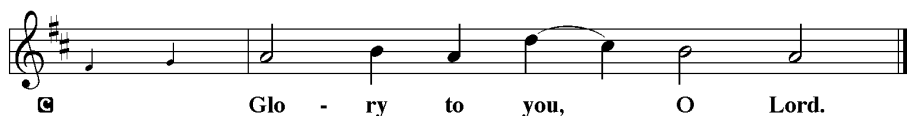
***VERSE**



GOSPEL:

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eleventh chapter.



¹⁶ “But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

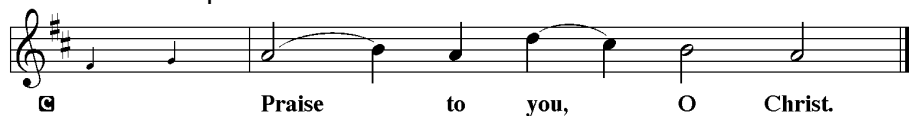
¹⁷ “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy

laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

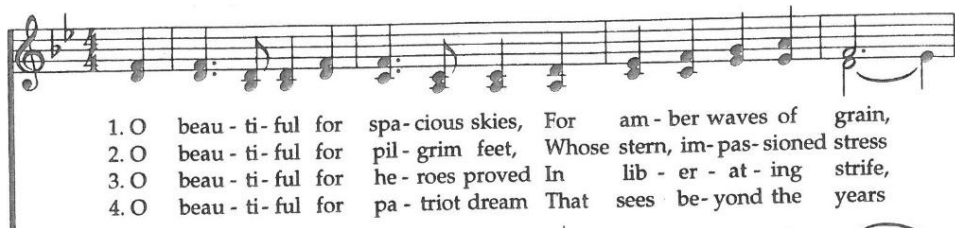


Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

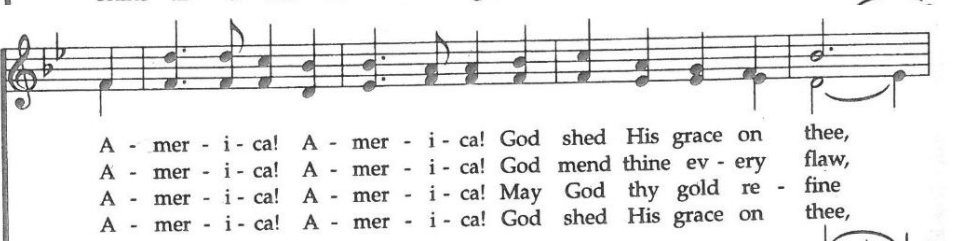
“America, the Beautiful”



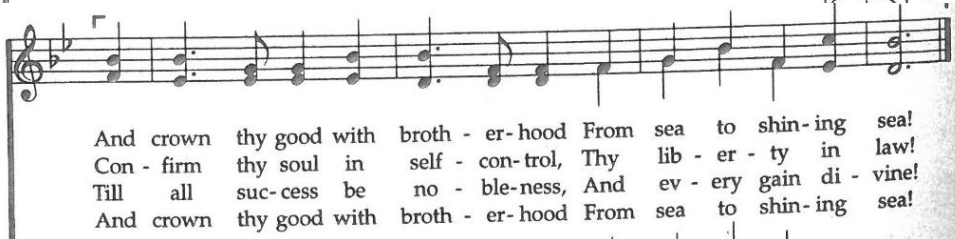
1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain,
 2. O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im - pas - sioned stress
 3. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In lib - er - at - ing strife,
 4. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the years



For pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 A thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness!
 Who more than self their coun - try loved And mer - cy more than life!
 Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un - dimmed by hu - man tears!



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on thee,



And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea!
 Con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law!
 Till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, And ev - ery gain di - vine!
 And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea!

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 for the Church, the world, and for one another.

Dear Father, thank you for Jesus, our friend and yokefellow. Thank you
for soul's refreshment and heart's ease, for mind's nourishment and
body's rest. Thank you for the countless blessings we so often take for
granted.

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 Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

***PEACE**

P The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C And also with you.

ANTHEM

"God Shed His Grace on Us"

Jernigan

Rebecca Veith, Soloist

(8:30)

"Patriotic Medley"

Trad.

Trumpet Duet: Bill & Mollie Bouch

(11:00)

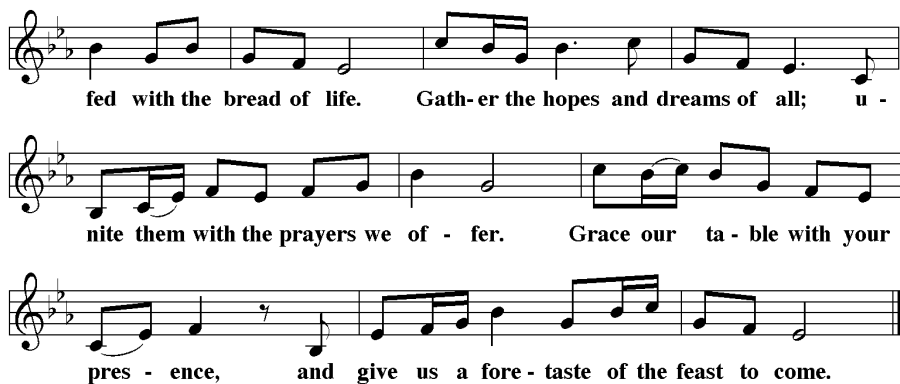
***OFFERTORY**



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. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

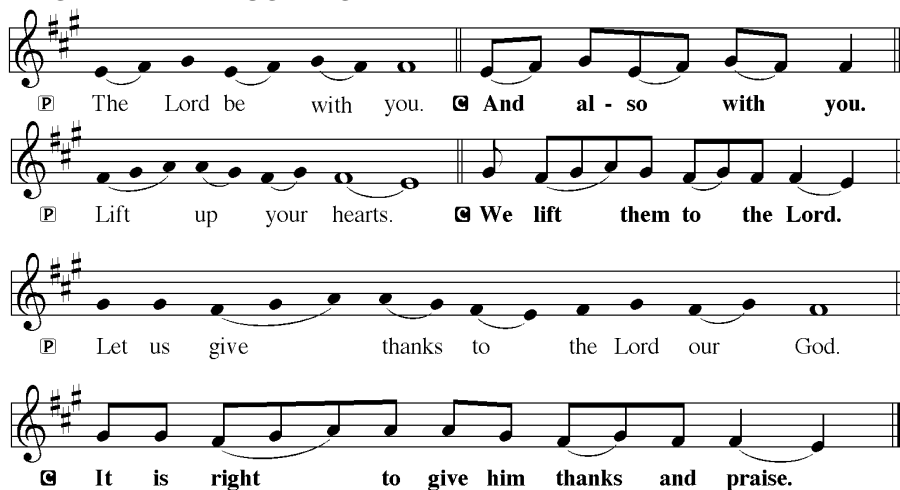
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

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



P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

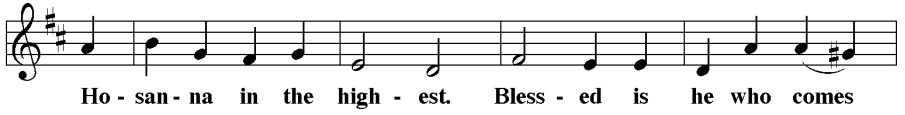
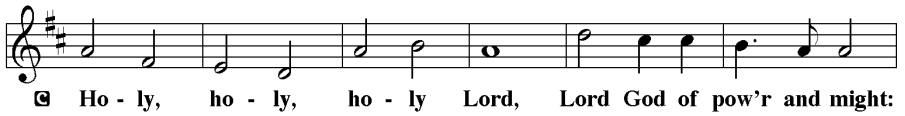
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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; 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:



EUCHARISTIC 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**

**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 467, 554, 559, 530, 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



C 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 "God Bless America"

G Gmaj7 Bbdim D7 Am7 D7

God Bless A - mer - i - ca, Land that I

7 G Gmaj7 G7 C Cm G G Em

love, Stand be - side her and guide her, Thru the

13 A7 D7 G tacit. D7

night with a light from a - bove. From the moun - tains to the

19 G D7 D7 G Bb7 Dm G7

prai - ries, To the o - ceans white with foam,

25 C G D7 G D#dim Em Em Am7 G D7 G7 Dm

God Bless A - mer - i - ca, My home sweet home,

33 C G D7 G D#dim Em Em Am7 G D7 G

God Bless A - mer - i - ca, my home sweet home

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“God of Our Fathers”

arr. Thewes

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Everyone is invited for a time of fellowship following worship in the Gathering space.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN’S

Today	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
Wednesday 7/8	6:30 p.m.	PJ’s Bible Study
Sunday 7/12	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Mark Your Calendars

July 13-17	NALC Youth Camp
July 20-22	NALC- Elementary Camp
Aug 4 – 6	Vacation Bible School: BARNYARD CARNIVAL



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.”



GRACE ACRES
VBS
BARNYARD CARNIVAL

AUGUST 4TH-6TH
★ 5:30-7:30PM ★
AT ST JOHNS KITTANNING

AGES PRE-K- 5TH GRADE!
PARENTS TO STAY WITH KIDS 6 AND YOUNGER

Call
724-548-2051
for details

★ **SIGN UP AT** ★
www.tinyurl.com/stjohnskittanningvbs2026

**FUN!
FAITH!
FRIENDS!**

**GAMES!
MUSIC!
PRIZES!**



**Grace Acres
VBS: BARNYARD
CARNIVAL!**

Carnival Volunteers needed the week of VBS & helpers needed for daily set-up/tear down the week of August 4th-6th
Decorating and prep in June & July.

See Julie if you would like to help.

**Aug 4th-6th
5:30-7:30pm
Kids Pre-K-5th Grade
Sign up at**

www.tinyurl.com/stjohnskittanningvbs2026

Tractors Wanted! For "Touch a Truck" Night for VBS,
Please see Julie, if you'd like to bring a tractor. August 5th



SAVE
THE
DATE!

IN-TENTS

LUTHERAN CHURCH CAMP

.....

YOUTH: JULY 13-17, 2026

ELEMENTARY: JULY 20-22, 2026

.....

ACTIVITIES:

- Worship
- Swimming
- Fellowship
- Games
- Learning
- Great food
- Friends
- Flight 93 Memorial



Speakers: Heather & Pastor Matt Ruesch



<https://www.facebook.com/intentsNALC/>

Page open!!!



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers	Karen Waugaman (E) Gene Hughes (L)
Lectors	Jerah Wranich (E) Sophia Holt (L)
Comm Assistants	Karen Waugaman & Jill Wranich (E) Sophia & Elijah Holt (L)
Acolytes	TBA (E) TBA (L)
Camera Operators	Nick Wranich (E) Bill Bouch (L)

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	Angela B. Clever
Sexton	Robert John
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 our nation's 250th Birthday by Carol Runniger 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.

*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 other people
and to spread that love with the entire world!*

