

# St. John's Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

**July 27, 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 **Seventh 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.

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PROPER 12)      JULY 27, 2025**

*Prayer upon entering God's House:*

*Heavenly Father, endow us richly with Your Holy Spirit, and by Your grace, sustain our faith, dispelling our doubts and confusion, and keep us faithful to Your Word. Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

*"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

*arr. Manz*

**\*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**

*"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

*LBW 290*

**\*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.



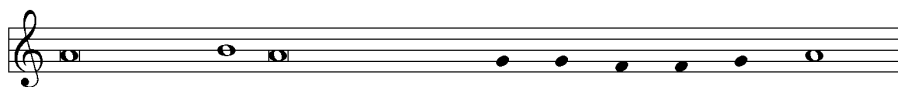
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



☩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

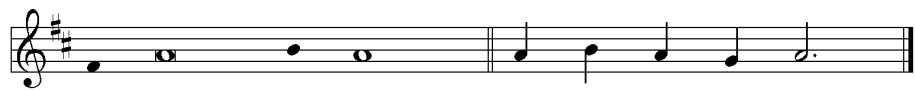


you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY



☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, Your ears are open always to the prayers of Your servants. Open our hearts and minds to You, that we may live in harmony with Your will and receive the gifts of Your Spirit; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**FIRST LESSON:****Genesis 18:20–32**

**A** The First Lesson is from the eighteenth chapter of Genesis.

<sup>20</sup> Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, <sup>21</sup> I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

<sup>22</sup> So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup> Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” <sup>26</sup> And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

<sup>27</sup> Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup> Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup> Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup> Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup> He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup> Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

**A** Here ends the reading.

**PSALM:****Psalm 138**

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your name,  
because of your love and faithfulness;**

<sup>3</sup>for you have glorified your name  
and your word above all things.

**<sup>4</sup>When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.**

<sup>5</sup>All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

**<sup>6</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly;  
he perceives the haughty from afar.

**<sup>8</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will make good his purpose for me;  
O LORD, your love endures forever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.

## **SECOND LESSON:**

**Colossians 2:6–19**

A The Second Lesson is from the second chapter of Colossians.

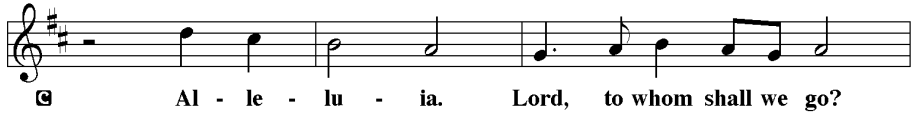
<sup>6</sup>Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,  
<sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you  
were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty  
deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits  
of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness  
of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the  
head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a  
circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh,  
by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism,  
in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful  
working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were  
dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God  
made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,  
<sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal  
demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the  
rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over  
them in him.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and  
drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These  
are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to  
Christ. <sup>18</sup>Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship  
of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by  
his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the  
whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and  
ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

**A** Here ends the reading.

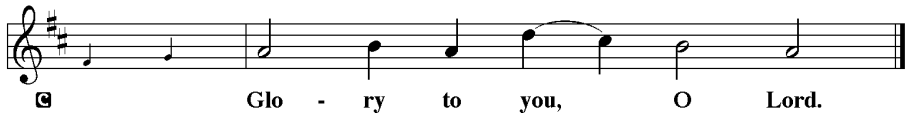
**\*VERSE**



**GOSPEL:**

**Luke 11:1–13**

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



Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread,

<sup>4</sup> and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

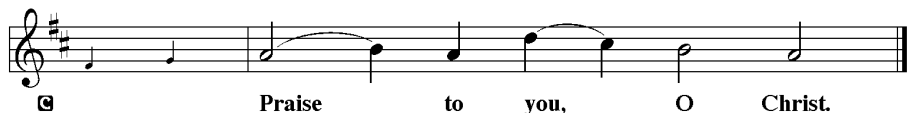
And lead us not into temptation.”

<sup>5</sup> And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’;

<sup>7</sup> and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything?’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything

because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup> What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup> or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.



## CHILDREN'S SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**      *"Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright"*      LBW 438

## 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

## ANTHEM

*"I Love You, Lord"*  
*Karina Blose, Clarinet*

*arr. Pethel*

## OFFERING

### \*OFFERTORY

Musical notation for the offertory. The notation is on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 7/8 time. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir - it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence.

## \*THE PRAYERS

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to God our Father in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord, making intercession for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.

*A brief silence*

Father, we have grown so used to praying to you that sometimes we forget what a privilege it is! Forgive us when we become careless, forgetful, or presumptuous. By your Spirit's leading, make us eager, confidently and lovingly calling you "Abba, Father," and talking with you about everything. 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**

**\*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.**

**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  $\alpha$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



**A - men**

**CLOSING HYMN** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" **LBW 439**

**\*DISMISSAL**

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** "Toccata" **Young**

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

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

<b>Today</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
<b>Monday 7/28</b>	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee
<b>Sunday 8/3</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	12:30 p.m.	Church Picnic

## Church Picnic



## Church Picnic

Sunday, August 3, 2025

12:30 p.m. – ? ? ? ?

Belmont Complex Small Pavilion

Drinks, hamburgers and hot dogs be will be provided. Please bring your own tableware and a covered dish or dessert to share.

Don't forget your swim suit and sunscreen!

Pavilion rental is until the pool closes, so we can stay, swim and enjoy the entire day! Hope to see you there!!!!



## **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."**



## *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?

**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***

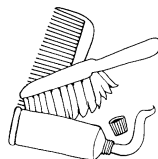
- 1 five-gallon bucket with lid
- 1 jug bleach (1/2 gal. or smaller)
- 2 large trash bags (Contractor 3 mil)
- 1 roll paper towels
- 2 rags
- Comet or scouring cleanser
- Pine Sol or liquid cleaner
- scrub brush
- gloves, 1 pair each, size L preferred
  - leather
  - cotton
  - rubber (reusable, i.e. 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) Deb Bouch (L)
Lector	Brendan Swanson (E) Emily Bouch (L)
Comm Assistants	Susan Barto & TBD (E)
Acolytes	Marlee Smith (E) Anna Venesky (L)
Camera Operators	Robert John (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

## 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