

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

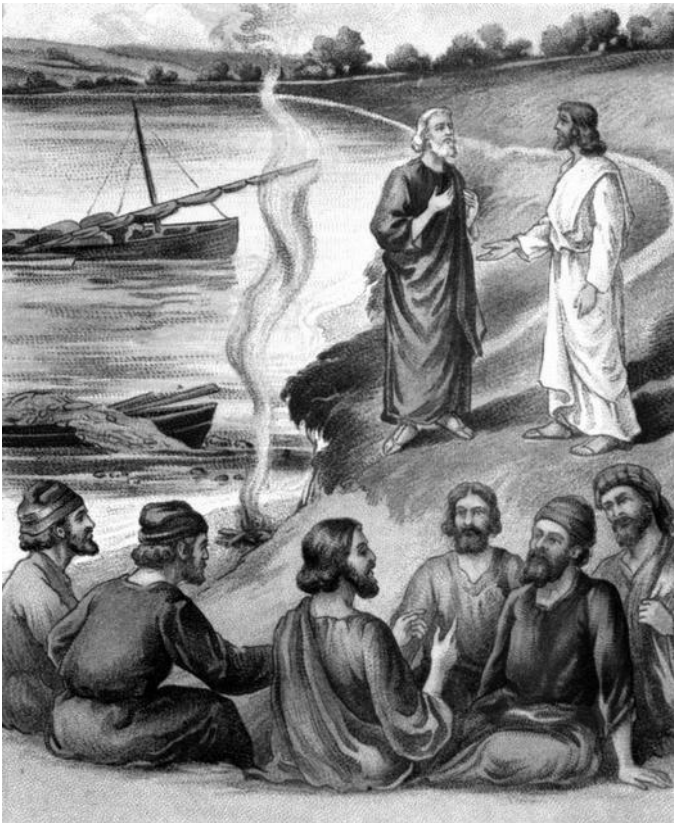
Home: 724-548-5512

Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

June 29, 2025

8:30 & 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 feast of **Saints Peter and Paul**. 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:

Heavenly Father, Your Son called us to follow Him. Set our minds on things that are above and not on things that are of the earth. Empower us through Your Holy Spirit to be faithful to Your call. Let the inherent act of worshipping You come out of us so we may sing Your praises and thank You. Through Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

arr. Hamlin

***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**

"Lift High the Cross"

LBW 377

***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



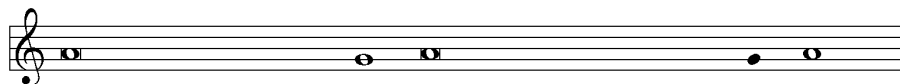
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



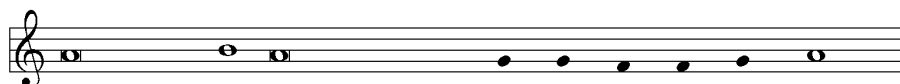
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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.

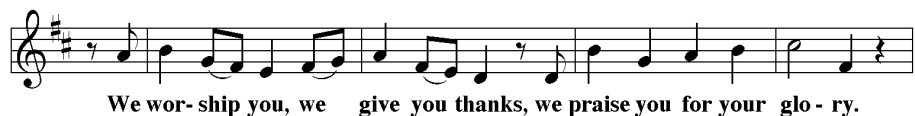


Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. Ⓞ A - men

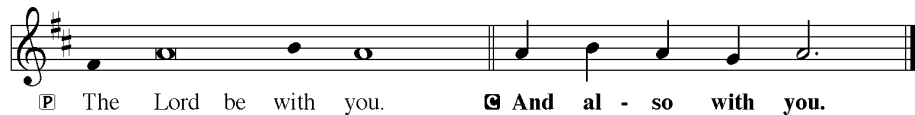
*HYMN OF PRAISE



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



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified You by their martyrdom: Grant that Your Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by Your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON:**EZEKIEL 34:11-16****A** The First Lesson is from the 34th chapter of Ezekiel.

¹¹ “For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

A Here ends the reading.**PSALM:****Psalms 87:1–2, 4–6**

On the holy mount stands the city he founded;
²the Lord loves the gates of Zion
 more than all the dwelling places of Jacob.

**Glorious things of you are spoken,
 O city of God.**

⁴ Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon;
 behold, Philistia and Tyre, with Cush
 “This one was born there,” they say.

**⁵ And of Zion it shall be said,
 “This one and that one were born in her”;**

for the Most High himself will establish her.

⁶ The LORD records as he registers the peoples,
 “This one was born there.”

SECOND LESSON:**1 Corinthians 3:16-23****A** The Second Lesson is from the third chapter of 1st Corinthians.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.

¹⁸ Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹ For

the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, “He catches the wise in their craftiness,²⁰ and again, “The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.”²¹ So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours,²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours,²³ and you are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s.

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:

Mark 8:27-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 8th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

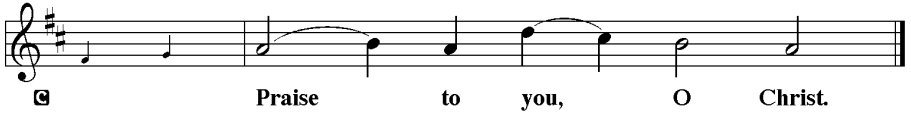
²⁷ And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”²⁸ And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.”²⁹ And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.”³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

³⁴ And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

"They Cast Their Nets"

LBW 449

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**

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.

Dear Father, thank you for promising to keep a faithful remnant to do your will! Number us, we pray, in that company. Fill us with your Spirit, so that we may live fruitful lives. In all things, help us to glorify you and nourish those who are starving for your good Word.

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

***PEACE**

P The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

"Chant de Bretagne"
Rebecca Veith, Organist

Langlais

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.

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 apostles Peter and Paul, and with all the company of all heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


SANCTUS



C 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

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

AGNUS DEI



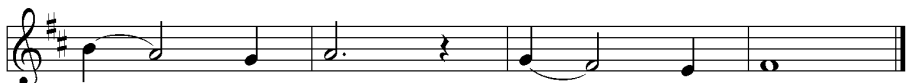
☉ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

WOV 699, 711, 710, 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. Please inform the Pastor if you need a gluten-free communion wafer.

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.



***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

"For All Your Saints, O Lord"

LBW 176

POSTLUDE

"Toccata in Seven"

Rutter

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**Congratulations to our members
who celebrate their First Holy Communion today:**

Parker Scott Heller

Finn Elliott Heller

**God Loves you
so very much!**

The Mid Northeast Mission District of the NALC will be the Local Hosts for Lutheran Week. Please consider volunteering August 3rd - 8th, 2025, at The Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

This year's theme is ***Running with Endurance: Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus***. Our theme is inspired by Hebrews 12 and calls us to persevere in the race set before us, looking to Jesus—the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. We gather to renew our focus, realign our hearts, and reaffirm our calling as Christ's Church—anchored in His promises and emboldened by His grace.

Join us for Lutheran Week 2025!

The events of Lutheran Week will include the Faith Formation Festival, Lutheran Theologians for the Church, Women of the NALC Gathering, Carl E. Braaten-Robert D. Benne Lectures in Theology, Mission Festival and Convocation.

Lutheran Week Volunteer Roles Needed

Host: Individuals in this role will act as greeters and provide information to attendees. They will be stationed in certain places throughout the building to help attendees find the meeting rooms, restrooms, meal areas, and display area.

Registration: Individuals in this role will welcome and check in attendees. This includes distributing materials and nametags.

Display Assistant: Individuals in this role will assist the various ministries in setting up displays, getting materials to the display area, and finding their way around the hotel.

Usher: Individuals in this role will assist in all general sessions by checking credentials at doors, providing information or assistance, and accepting the offering as well as guiding attendees during communion during worship services.

First Aid/Medical Response: Individuals that may be in one of the other roles but are trained in First Aid/Medical Response and can also assist in case of an emergency.

Sign Up Details

There will be orientation/training provided for each role. Complete the Volunteer Sign Up Form at tinyurl.com/NALC2025-volunteer and see Pastor Johnson. Final assignments are scheduled to be complete by July 3, 2025.



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

Here you will find: Bulletins, Newsletters, Morning Prayers, Upcoming events and program information, Youth Events including photos from the recent QUAKE trip, and more.



Theme: Y'all need a little Jesus

July 14-18, 2025 - - Youth Camp

July 21-23, 2025 - - Elementary Camp

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

[Registration Page](#)

NOW OPEN !!!



Music Ministry

CHURCH MUSIC NOTES

Choir members, just a few reminders. If you still have any music from this year, please drop it off in the choir room for filing as soon as possible. Thank you.

Also, if you have any repairs needed for your robes, please pull them out and place on the piano bench in the choir room.

Thanks to all of you who are providing special music this summer in the anthem slot-we really appreciate your participation during worship.

Don't forget, choir rehearsals will resume the Wednesday after Labor Day. It would be great to see some new faces!

Rebecca Veith

Organist/Director of Music

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!



Reminder

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

*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.*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

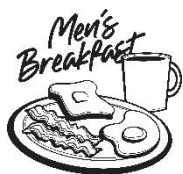
Sunday 6/29	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
Friday 7/4	Office Closed – Happy Independence Day	
Sunday 7/6	8:30 a.m.	Worship; Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship; Communion

TODAY

You are invited to a double celebration with the Debnar Family for a time of fellowship after the 11:00 service TODAY to celebrate Emil's 80th birthday and granddaughter Jaslyn's high school graduation.

Mark
the
Date

You are invited to celebrate with Frank Baker at a fellowship hour reception after the 11:00 service on July 6th for his 90th Birthday



Men's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, July 26th 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 concluding by 9:00 a.m.



Women's Bible Study

will be canceled for July and August.
See you again in September!

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers	Nancy Pierce (E) Sara Shafer (L)
Lectors	Karen Waugaman (E) Karen Waugaman (L)
Comm Assistants	Karen Waugaman & Nancy Pierce (E) Karen Waugaman & Susan Neal (L)
Acolytes	Brody Hodak (E) Avia Clever (L)
Welcome Team	The Hodaks (E) Vieira & Vaila Clever (L)
Camera Operators	Robert John (E) Bill Bouch (L)

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	Angela B. Clever
Sexton	TBA
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 Emil Debnar's 80th birthday by Rose Debnar and family.

The flowers on the chancel this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in loving honor of Jaslyn Debnar's High School Graduation by her grandparents Emil & Rose Debnar.

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



St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA