

-St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

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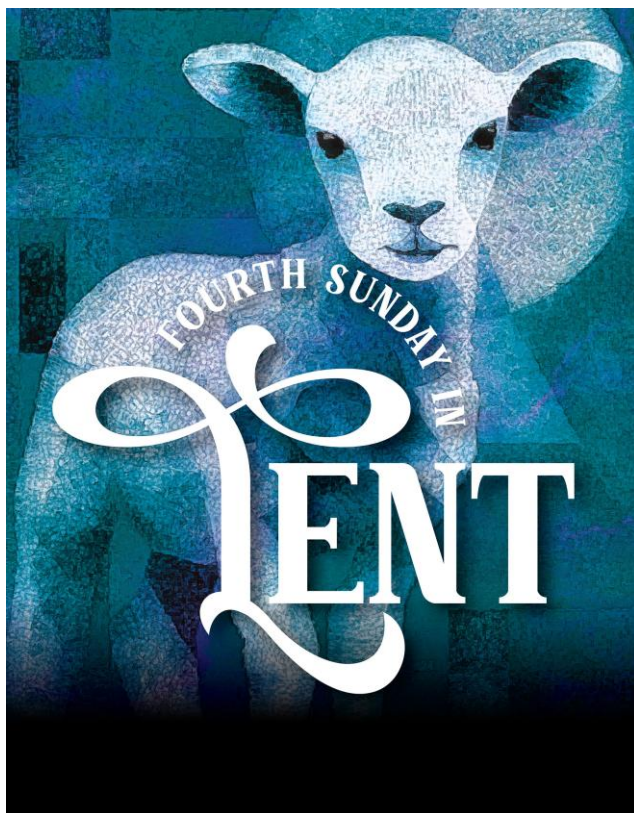
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

March 15, 2026

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 Worship this morning as we celebrate the **Fourth Sunday in Lent**. 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

“Adoro te Devote”

arr. Willan

***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**

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

LBW 479

***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.

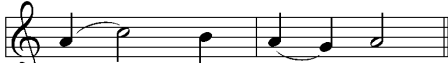
***KYRIE**



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



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



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



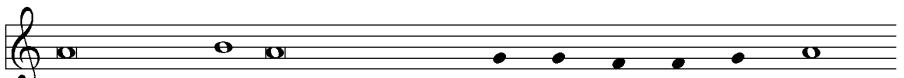
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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,

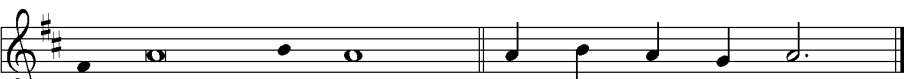


let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

God of all mercy, by Your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON:

1 Samuel 16:1–13

A The First Lesson is from the sixteenth chapter of First Samuel.

The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”² And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’”³ And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.”⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”⁵ And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is before him.”⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.”¹¹ Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.”

¹² And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

IN UNISON

PSALM 23 KJV

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow

of death, I will fear no evil:

for Thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

SECOND LESSON:

Ephesians 5:8–14

A The Second Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Ephesians.

⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose

them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in

secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible,

¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,

and arise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

A Here ends the reading.

*VERSE



GOSPEL:

John 9:1–41

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.



As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made

mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud⁷ and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So, he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?"⁹ Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."¹⁰ So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight."¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.²¹ But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."²² (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

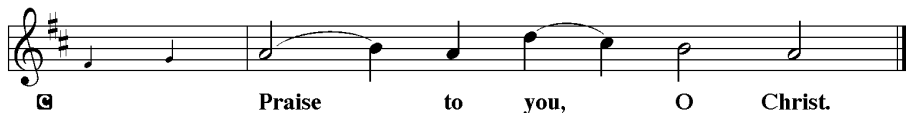
²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."

²⁵ He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."³⁰ The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to

him. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN**

“Amazing Grace”

LBW 448

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**

A Let us lift our hearts and voices to the Lord in prayer, that he would be merciful to his people.

A brief silence

Father, thank you for the light of sun, moon, stars, streetlights, candles, and lamps. Thank you for these “created lights” that bear witness to the true and uncreated Light, your Son, Jesus Christ. Lead us, even when eyes fail and earthly lights grow dim, to his kindly light, which no

darkness can overcome. 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.

ANTHEM *"Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love"* *arr. Pettker*

***OFFERTORY**



☩ What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?



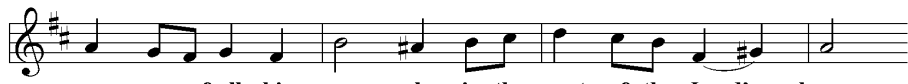
I will of-fer the sac-ri- fice of thanks- giv - ing and will call on the



name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal- va- tion and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the



pres-ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,



in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Let us pray, Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—our
selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

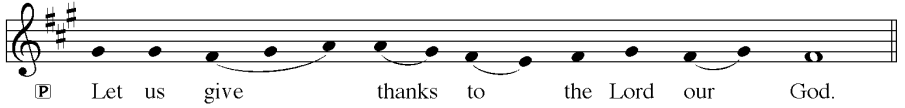
PREFACE



☩ 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, through Christ our Lord. You bid Your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

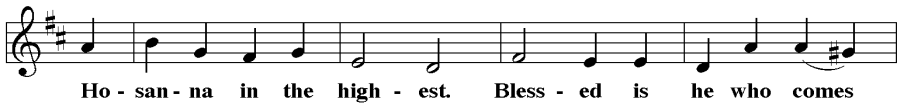
*SANCTUS



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.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 199, 456, 104 WOV 740

***COMMUNION**

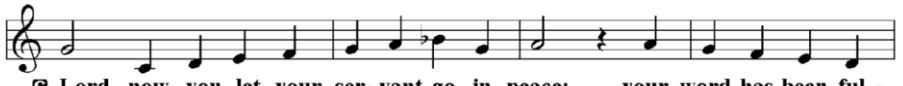
All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present

In the Lord's Supper are invited to receive this Sacrament with us.

*For those that require special dietary restrictions, we now have gluten-free, communion wafers.
Please inform the Pastor of your needs.*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in His grace. **C Amen**

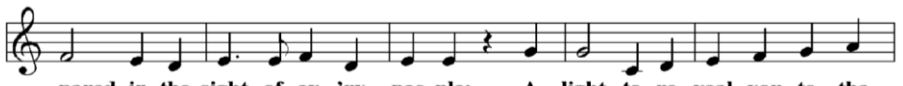
***CANTICLE**



C Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev- 'ry peo- ple: A light to re-veal you to the

na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
 and will be for - ev - er. A - men

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Let us pray.... Almighty God, You gave Your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to His; through the same 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** *"What Wondrous Love is This"* **LBW 385**

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"Carillon"* **Faulkes**

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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!



NALC Disaster Relief Basic Kitchen Essentials

During a disaster we often are left with just the clothes on our backs; losing everything. In the past we have collected cleaning supplies and hygiene kits which help during the initial stage of recovery. The next level of support is helping to replace some of the basic household items. The Fellowship and Social Ministry Committees are reaching out to members to collect these kitchen items during March and April. Kits can be placed at the front of the Sanctuary.

Kitchen Kits

(Pack kits in a 2-gallon plastic storage bag or drawstring backpack)



- ✓ Manual can opener
- ✓ Cookbook
- ✓ Dish cloths
- ✓ Dish towel
- ✓ Hot pad
- ✓ Spatula (turner)
- ✓ Measuring cups
- ✓ Measuring spoons
- ✓ Storage container (2-cup w/lid)
- ✓ Trash bags (a few, mixed sizes)

In addition to the above items, if you so choose, include a useful kitchen item of your choice (i.e., mini cutting board, peeler, tongs, etc.).

Thank you for your support.





Monday Bible Study in Lent

Pastor Johnson will be leading a Bible Study on the book of Mark each **Monday at 7:00 p.m.** in Lent beginning on February 23rd. This is a very basic Bible Study designed for beginners.
Come journey through Mark!

Pastor's Sunday School Class:

Adult Sunday School

Pastor Johnson's class will be studying the book of Acts of the Apostles. Come journey with Apostolic Zeal!



Wednesday Evening Pastors' Study:

Adult Catechism, 7:00 pm

This review is good for those who are preparing to join the congregation as an adult, for adult baptism or for those who just want to brush up on their catechism.



Catechism

- March 18th The Sacraments, Confession
- March 25th Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy



Lenten Men's Prayer Breakfasts

Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 a.m.

The men of St. John's will be meeting Saturday mornings for breakfast and study. Following the meal will be a brief program concluding by 9:00 a.m.

KMA Community Lenten Worship Services

Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Mar. 17	Living Water	Pastor Johnson
Mar. 24	St. Luke's U.C.C.	Major Brent Carlson

KMA Lenten Luncheons Schedule

Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m.

Mar 18	First Baptist	Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Mar 25	First Methodist / Hope Center	Rev. Ross Perrine

Easter Flowers



Flowers may be purchased to place in the church for Easter. Please fill out this form and place it in the offering plate or mail it to St. John's Lutheran Church, 218 N. Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA. Please include payment; if check, make out to *St. John's Lutheran Church* with the designation "*Easter flowers*" in the memo line. **Orders must be placed by March 23.**

The cost of the flowers is as follows:

_____ Lilies	\$12.00
_____ Tulips	\$9.00
_____ Daffodils	\$9.00

In memory of

Given by:

In honor of _____

Given by: _____

_____ I will take my flower(s) after Easter Worship.

_____ Please take my flower(s) to a shut-in.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday 3/15	8:30 a.m.	Rock of Our Salvation
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	5:00 p.m.	Men's Fellowship Dinner
Monday 3/16	7:00 p.m.	PJ's Study (Book of Mark)
Tuesday 3/17	7:00 p.m.	KMA Worship (Living Water)
Wednesday 3/18	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	Noon	KMA Luncheon
	6:15 p.m.	Bells
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
	7:30 p.m.	Choir
Thursday 3/19	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	1:00 p.m.	Newsletter Mailing
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
	Saturday 3/21	8:00 a.m.
Sunday 3/22	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion



Join the Choir

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers	Rebecca Swanson (E) Sara Shafer (L)
Lectors	Jill Wranich (E) Chris Choncek (L)
Comm Assistants	Jill Wranich & John Swanson (E) Nancy Pierce & Karen Waugaman (L)
Acolyte	Gracie Hodak (E) TBD (L)
Welcome Teams	The Hodaks (E) The Holts (L)
Camera Operator	Nick Wranich (E) Keith Livengood (L)

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	Angela B. Clever
Sexton	Patrick Pastor
Organist/Choir Director/Director of Music	Rebecca Veith
Sr. Choir Accompanist	Elizabeth Cramer



The flower chart for 2026 has been posted in the narthex. Please take this opportunity to sign up for the dates that you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one or special event. You may also call the church office. **Flowers are \$70.00.**

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