

-St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Home: 724-548-5512

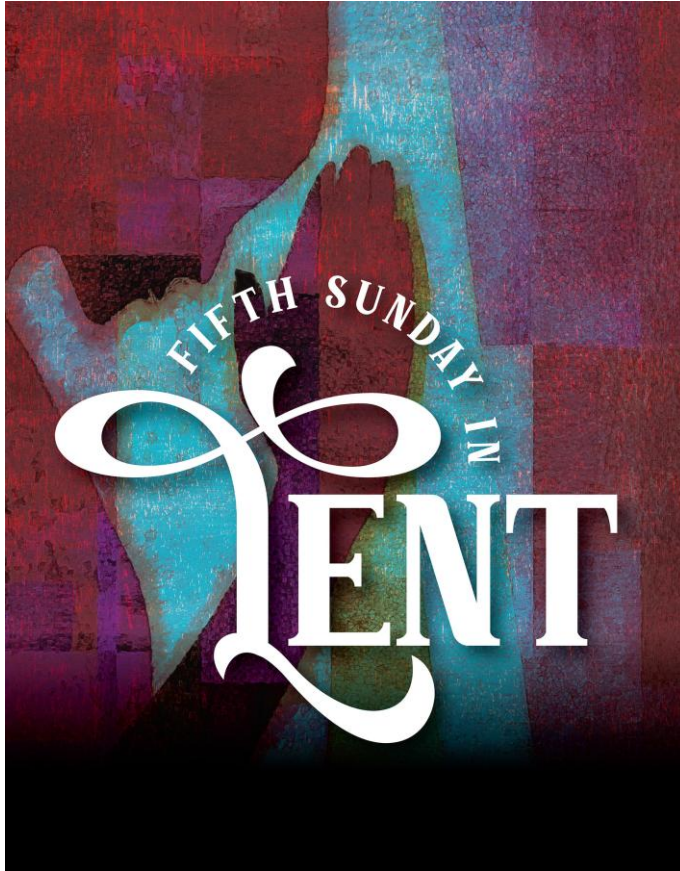
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

March 22, 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 **Fifth 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:

Almighty God, who hates nothing that You have made, and forgives the sins of all those who are penitent; create and make in us new and contrite hearts, so that we may obtain from You perfect forgiveness. Amen.

PRELUDE

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

Walther

***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**

“What Wondrous Love is This”

LBW 385

***GREETING**

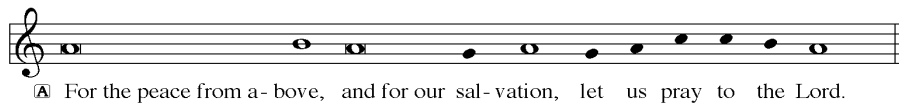
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*KYRIE



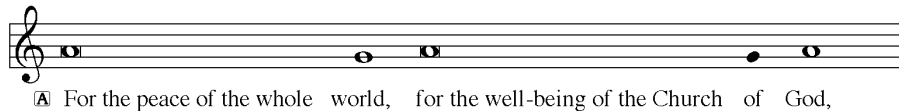
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



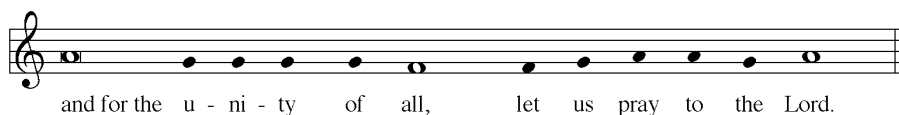
Ⓐ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



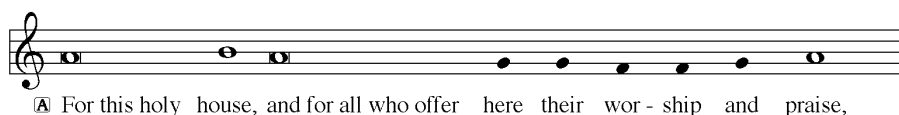
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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,

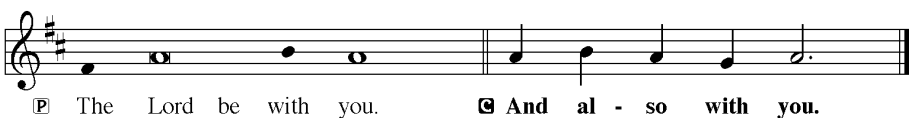


let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY



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

Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be Your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may follow Your commands and proclaim Your reign of love; 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:

Ezekiel 37:1–14

A The First Lesson is from the thirty-seventh chapter of Ezekiel

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹ Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus, says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I called to You, O LORD;

LORD, hear my voice;

let Your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

²If You, LORD, were to note what is done amiss,

O LORD, who could stand?

³For there is forgiveness with You;

Therefore, You shall be feared.

⁴I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him;

in his word is my hope.

⁵My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

**⁶O Israel, wait for the LORD,
for with the LORD there is mercy;**

⁷with him there is plenteous redemption,
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

SECOND LESSON:

Romans 8:6–11

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

⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

***VERSE**



GOSPEL:

John 11:1–45

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



Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the

day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

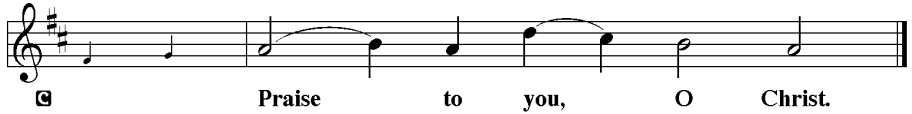
²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account

of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”
43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” 44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

45 Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

LBW 488

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

A brief silence

Lord, we live in a valley of deathly shadows. Thank you for Jesus, who calls us by name from our tombs. Help us to firmly believe that his is our Resurrection and our Life. 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

"God So Loved the World"

Stainer

*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



☩ 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, 109, 123, 117 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**



☩ 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,



***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 \times Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



***CLOSING HYMN**

"Glory Be to Jesus"

LBW 95

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Chaconne"

Couperin

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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. Thank you for your support.

Kitchen Kits

(Pack kits in a 2.5-gallon plastic Ziploc)

*manual can opener * cookbook (found some at Dollar Tree in magazine form)* dish cloths * dish towel * hot pad * spatula (turner) *measuring cups * measuring spoons *storage container (2-cup w/lid) *garbage bags (a few, mixed sizes) *another helpful kitchen item of your choice (i.e., mini cutting board, peeler, tongs, etc).



May you have a
REPENTANT

Lent

and a

JOYOUS

Easter



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 25th Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy

Lenten Men's Prayer Breakfasts

Saturday, April 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. 24	St. Luke's U.C.C.	Major Brent Carlson
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KMA Lenten Luncheons Schedule Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m.

Mar 25	First Methodist / Hope Center	Rev. Ross Perrine
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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 3/22

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Choir
11:00 a.m. Worship: Communion
12 – 12:30 p.m. Youth Group

Monday 3/23

7:00 p.m. PJ's Study (Book of Mark)

Tuesday 3/24

7:00 p.m. KMA Worship (St. Luke's UCC)

Wednesday 3/25

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 3/26

9:30 a.m. Children's Hour
1:00 p.m. Newsletter Mailing
2:45 p.m. Catechism
7:00 p.m. Catechism

Saturday 3/28

8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 3/29

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Choir
11:00 a.m. Worship



Join the Choir

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers
Lectors
Comm Assistants
Acolytes
Welcome Teams
Camera Operator

Kay Thorell
Rich Farah
Debbie & William Bouch
TBD
The Farahs
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
Patrick Pastor
Rebecca Veith
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.

*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