

St. John's Lutheran Church

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Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

August 30, 2026

11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE



For those who want to save their life

will lose it,

and those who lose their life for my sake

will find it.

Matthew 16:25, NRSV

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 **Fourteenth 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:

Gracious God, we pray that You will draw us all nearer to You. Strengthen the devotion of those who are falling away and inspire anew all those whose doubts burden them. In the matchless name of Jesus we pray. Amen

PRELUDE

*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

*HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

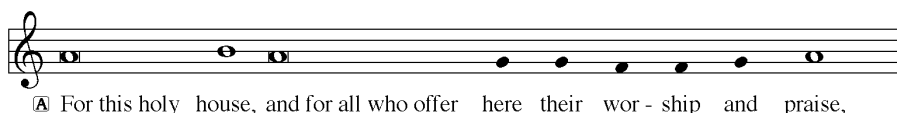
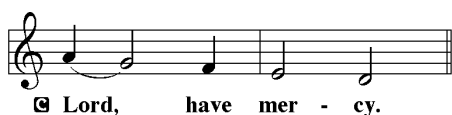
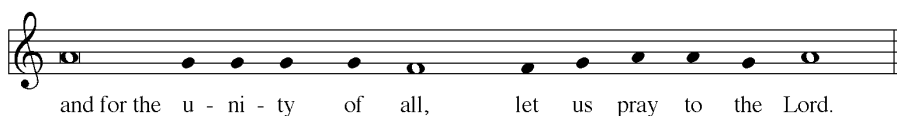
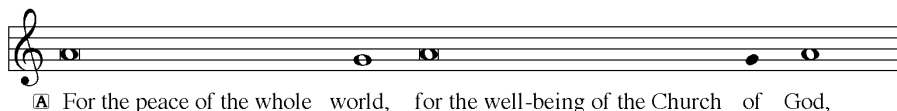
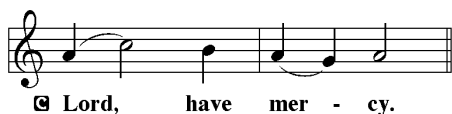
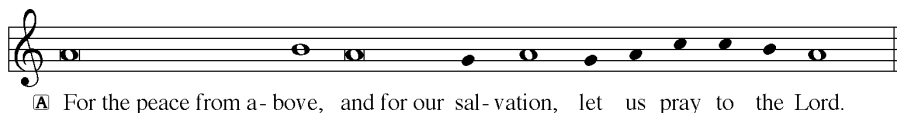
LBW 377

*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



*HYMN OF PRAISE





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,

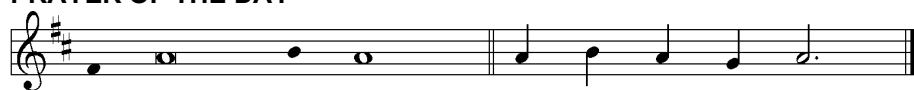


you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



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, we thank You for Your Son who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by His example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow His commands; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

FIRST LESSON:

Jeremiah 15:15–21

A The First Lesson is from the 15th chapter of Jeremiah.

¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:

“If you return, I will restore you,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall be as my mouth.

They shall turn to you,
but you shall not turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you

to save you and deliver you,
declares the LORD.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

Psalms 26:1–8

Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

**²Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

**⁴I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**⁶I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND LESSON:

Romans 12:9–21

A The Second Lesson is from the 12th chapter of Romans.

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

A Here ends the reading.



GOSPEL:

Matthew 16:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 16th chapter



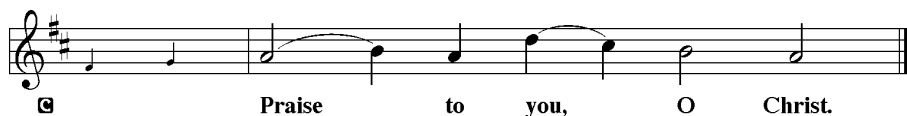
²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord This shall never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter,

“Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸ Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P The Gospel of the Lord



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN**

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

LBW 104

SERMON

The Cruciform Lifestyle

***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

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior”

Sally Marasco, autoharp & Tim Marasco, guitar

***OFFERTORY**





*THE PRAYERS

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and for one another.

Heavenly Father, thank you for Peter! Last week we thanked you for his witness. Today we thank you, not *because* he stumbled, but because Jesus *rebuked, loved, and forgave him*. Lord, we know you will rebuke us when we are a stumbling block and unwitting agent of Satan. Give us grace to repent and humbly take up our cross again, following Jesus alone. 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

*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

*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.



*CLOSING HYMN

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

LBW 294

*DISMISSAL

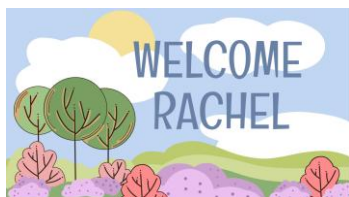
A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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



We welcome Rachel Stirling to the organ this morning as she substitutes for Rebecca.

Thank you Rachel!

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	8:30 a.m.	Rock of Our Salvation: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Thursday 9/3	7:00 p.m.	Catechism Parent Meeting
Sunday 9/6	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion

Mark Your Calendars

Sept 13	Rally Day
Sept 27	Progressive Workshop Dinner
Oct 11	Generosity Sunday / Harvest Home
Oct 25	Reformation Sunday
Nov 8	Turkey / Ham Dinner
Dec 6	Christmas Concert



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

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>

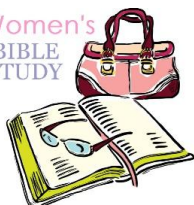
Don't forget to check out your Church Web Site:

www.stjohnskittanning.org

Here you will find: Bulletins, Newsletters, Morning Prayers, Upcoming events, program information, and more.



Women's
BIBLE
STUDY



Women's Bible Study

... will return at the King's restaurant on **Tuesday, September 8th at noon.** Any questions, please contact Cheryl Mechling at rock92@comcast.net. All are welcome!

Rally Day Breakfast - September 13th at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall

Join us as we kick off a new year of Sunday School with our Rally Day intergenerational celebration, including light breakfast. Orientation for all students, come and meet your teacher! Games and fun!

Come join the fun and fellowship!



Sharing the Bounty

At times our gardens under produce and at times they over produce. Over producing gives us the opportunity to share with others. Place on the table, next to the water cooler in the Gathering Space, your over abundance to share.

Please feel free to take from the table what you like and can use. Some weeks there may be lots, others maybe not so much.

You do not need to put anything on the table in order to enjoy a share from the table. There will be a container with plastic bags under the table for your goodies. Enjoy!

We will be receiving New Members on Sunday, September 20th.

Please talk to Pastor Johnson if you would like to join St. John's.





NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

DISASTER RESPONSE

“The Bucket List”

Your help is needed! For the 3rd time this year, Pennsylvania and specifically southern and southwest PA have experienced severe storms and flooding.

The NALC Disaster Response national warehouse is empty. Every warehouse east of the Mississippi River is empty. Heartlands Mission District is flooding, as is the Great Rivers Mission District, and Ohio Mission Region. We are emptying all of these regional warehouses.

- ✓ **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**
 - **Rubber (reusable, i.e. Platex, dishwashing type)**
 - **Leather**
 - **Cotton**



Additionally, we will be accepting used Bibles, in any condition. You are encouraged to write messages of hope in the front pages of donated Bibles.

If you do not wish to shop for any of these items, we welcome cash donations so that the Social Ministry Committee can do the shopping for you. **As always – Thank you for your support!**

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers

Becky Swanson (E)

Sara Shafer (L)

Lector

Julie Smith (E)

Colvin Adkins (L)

Comm Assistants

Gracie Hodak & John Swanson (E)

Acolytes

TBA (E)

Bill Bouch (L)

Camera Operators

Nick Wranich (E)

Bill Bouch (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



The flowers on the altar this morning are presented to the Glory to God and in loving honor of Ashlynn and Brenna Zurn's 20th birthday given by Amber, Gary and Kylie.

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!*

GRACE
happens



at
St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA

