

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Parsonage: 724-548-5512

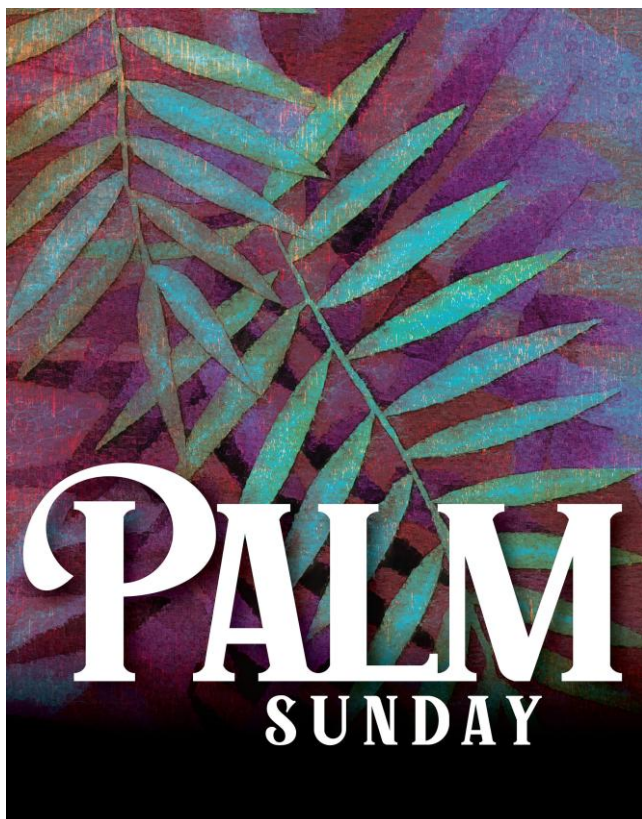
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

March 29, 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 **Palm Sunday**. 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:

Our Father, as we behold Your Son and our Savior in His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we pray that the honor we pay to Him may be that of the complete giving of ourselves to Him in glad and willing obedience. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Lift High the Cross"
Jeanette Nestor, Pianist
Rebecca Veith, Organist

arr. Raney

CHILDREN'S SERMON***DISTRIBUTION OF THE PALMS**

- 1 O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay
 Are strewn this day in festal preparation;
 Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,
 E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.

Refrain: Join all and sing, his name declare
 Let ev'ry voice resound with joyous acclamation!
 Hosanna! Praise ye the Lord!
 Bless him who cometh to bring us salvation.

- 2 His word goes forth, and peoples by its might.
 Freedom regain once more from degradation;
 Humanity doth give to each his right
 While those in darkness are restored to light. (*Refrain*)
- 3 Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem.
 Of all thy sons sing full emancipation;
 Thro' boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem
 Brings faith and hope to thee forevermore. (*Refrain*)

***PROCESSION WITH PALMS**

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby You have given us life everlasting; through You Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

A After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed

and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P We praise and thank You, O God, for the great acts of love by which You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day He entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in His path.

We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail Him as our Lord and King and follow Him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of the Lord.**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *All Glory, Laud & Honor*

LBW 108

***GREETING**

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take our flesh upon Him and to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in His obedience to Your will and in the glorious victory of His resurrection; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST LESSON:**Isaiah 50:4–9**

A The First Lesson is from the fiftieth chapter of Isaiah.

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.

⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.

⁶ I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

⁷ But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

⁸ He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.

⁹ Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:**Psalm 31:9–16**

⁹ Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**¹⁰ For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹ I have become a reproach to all my enemies and
even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

**¹² I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.
I have said, "You are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶**Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving kindness save me."**

SECOND LESSON:

Philippians 2:5–11

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

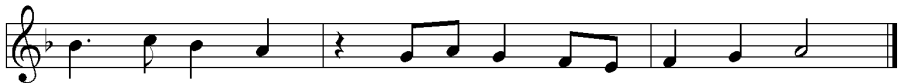
⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A Here ends the reading.

***LENTEN VERSE**



☐ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW

Insert

(Please remain seated. The congregation participates where indicated.)



☐ Praise to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM

"Behold the Lamb"

Rambo

*OFFERTORY



☩ 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.

*HYMN

"The Royal Banners Forward Go"

LBW 124

SERMON

*THE PRAYERS

As we return to the waters of baptism during this season of Lent, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

We pray that the same mind be in Your church as was in Christ Jesus; that we continue to bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

**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**
POSTLUDE

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”
“Here Yet Awhile”

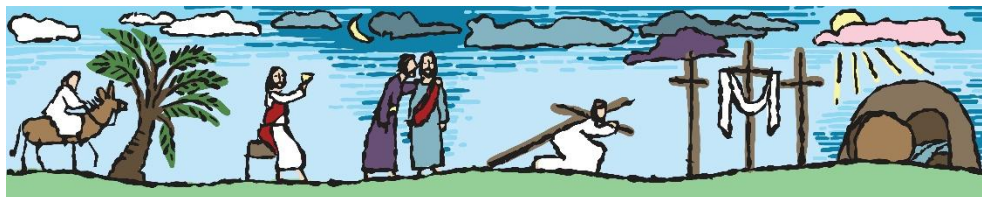
LBW 121
Bach

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23015. Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. CCLI Streaming License #11425662.

A Nursery/Cry Room is available on the second floor of the Education Building for those who may need it.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Tuesday 3/31	7:00 p.m.	Healing service: Communion
Wednesday 4/1	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	1:00 p.m.	Ispirare Youth Bible Study
	6:15 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 4/2	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	7:00 p.m.	Maunder Thursday: Communion
Friday 4/3		OFFICE CLOSED
	10:00 a.m.	Youth Group – Egg Stuffing
	Noon	KMA Good Friday Service
	7:00 p.m.	Tenebrae Service
Saturday 4/4	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
	9:00 a.m.	Church Decorating
	12:00 p.m.	Easter Egg Hunt – Easter story
Sunday 4/5	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	10:00 a.m.	Brass Ensemble
	11:00 a.m.	Festival Worship: Communion



Healing Service



As part of Holy Week, on **Tuesday, March 31st** at 7:00 p.m. St. John's will have a healing service. Healing services are a special time to come for prayer and be anointed for healing. Come for yourself or to pray for others - this is a special opportunity to focus on God's healing power.

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

The three holiest days of the church year begin with Maundy Thursday worship at 7:00 p.m. When we explore the events of the Last Supper - Christ's giving of the great commandment and His institution of the Lord's Supper.



Come enter into Christ's journey through the Triduum.

The Youth Group will meet Friday, April 3rd

(Good Friday) at 10:00 a.m. to fill & hide Easter eggs for the hunt on Saturday morning. **If you would like to donate candy** for the Easter egg hunt, please bring bags of small, individually wrapped candy to the church office by Friday morning.



Good Friday Community Lenten Worship

Will be held at 12:00 noon on Friday, April 3rd here at St. John's Lutheran Church. **Pastor Nick Wilson from First Church of God will be preaching.**



Tenebrae Service

Will be held on Friday, April 3rd at 7:00 p.m. with the Passion narrative according to St. John, using the symbolic power of light and darkness. Please join us for a most moving and meaningful service consisting of music, lessons, prayers, light and the cross.

Tenebrae Service




Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday April 4th

Noon-1 pm – Kids Pre-K to 5th grade.

Come find some eggs & hear the Easter Story!



On Sunday, April 5th we will celebrate the **Festival of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ** at 11:00 a.m. The morning begins with Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m. followed by 11:00 a.m. Festival Worship Service with Brass ensemble and Holy Communion.



**HOLY WEEK
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

March 29: Palm Sunday

*Procession with Palms 11:00 AM
The Passion According to St. Matthew*

March 31: Healing Service

Special Communion Service 7:00 PM

April 2: Maundy Thursday

Special Communion Service 7:00 PM

April 3: Good Friday

Youth Group Easter Egg Stuffing 10:00 AM
Donations of candy appreciated!

KMA Community Good Friday Service

St. John's Noon to 1:00 PM

Tenebrae Service 7:00 PM

A service of light and darkness

April 4: Holy Saturday

Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM

Easter Egg Hunt for the Children

12:00PM -1:00PM

Retelling the Easter Story

Nursery to 5th Grade

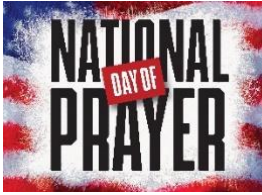
April 5: Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Celebration 11:00 AM

Festival Communion Service with Brass Ensemble

Please plan to attend our joyful Easter celebration!





National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7, 2026

@ 6:00 p.m.

Kittanning Riverfront Amphitheater.
*What the world and our nation most need
now are our prayers!*

Annual Spring Concert Sunday, May 3rd, 2026

*St. John's Lutheran Church
218 N. Jefferson Street
Kittanning, PA*

At 7:00 p.m.

*The Senior Bell Choir &
The Senior Vocal Choirs*

under the direction of Rebecca Veith

The concert is free and open to the public,

We welcome your family, friends & neighbors.

Come and celebrate spring with us!

There is a time of fellowship following in the social hall.



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>



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."



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.



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister
Lector
Acolytes

Charlie Bleakney
Brendan Swanson & Cast of Characters
Tommy Baker, Ella Fennell
Colvin Adkins, Anna Venesky
Jazwinskis and Baileys
Keith Livengood

Welcome Team
Camera Operators

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 flowers on the altar this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in loving honor of our grandson, Landon Kirkpatrick, for his 7th birthday by Denny & Patty Kirkpatrick.

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.

