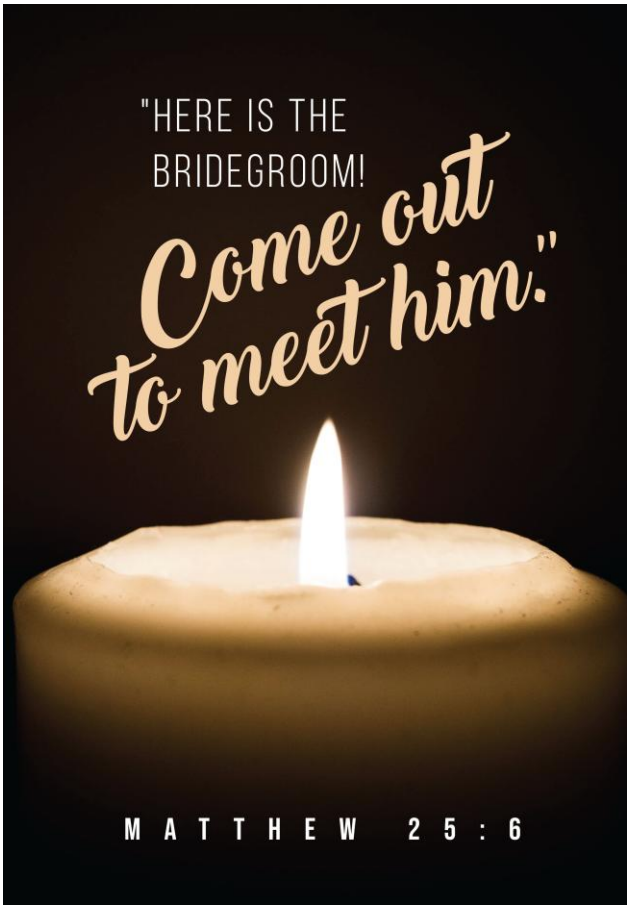
St. John's Lutheran Church

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

November 8, 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 **Twenty-fourth 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:

Lord, as we join brothers and sisters in praying 'give us this day our daily bread,' help us to feed on Your Word and be clothed in Your righteousness so that whether in this world or the next, we will be at home with You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE *"Benedictus"* *Rowley*

***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.
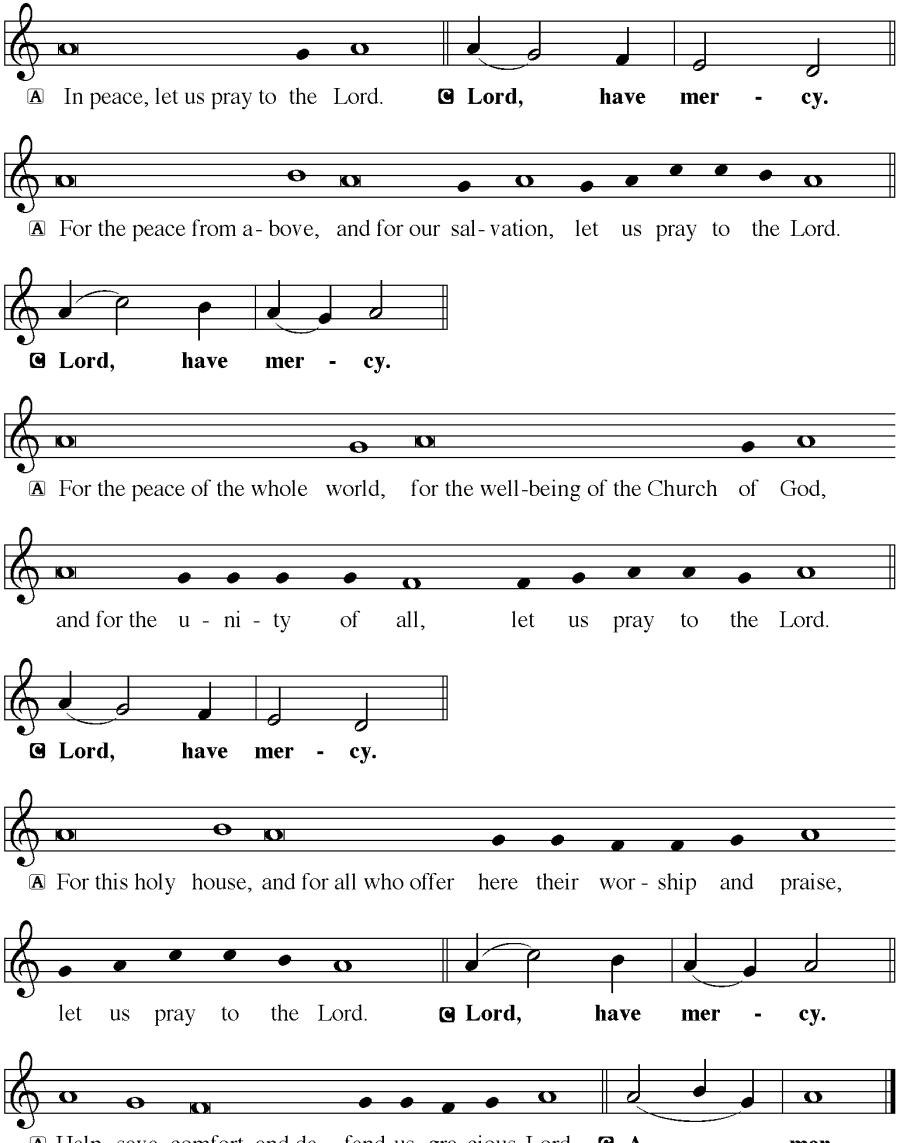
P Most merciful God,
C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake 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

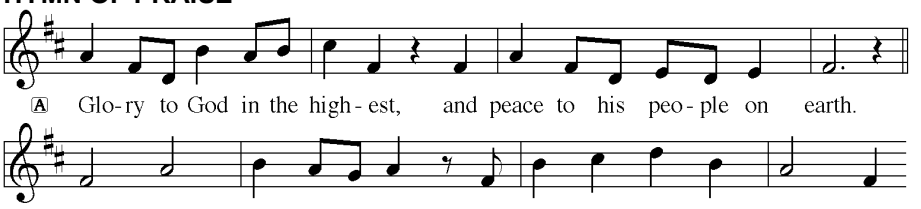
***OPENING HYMN** "*Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow*" *LBW 355*
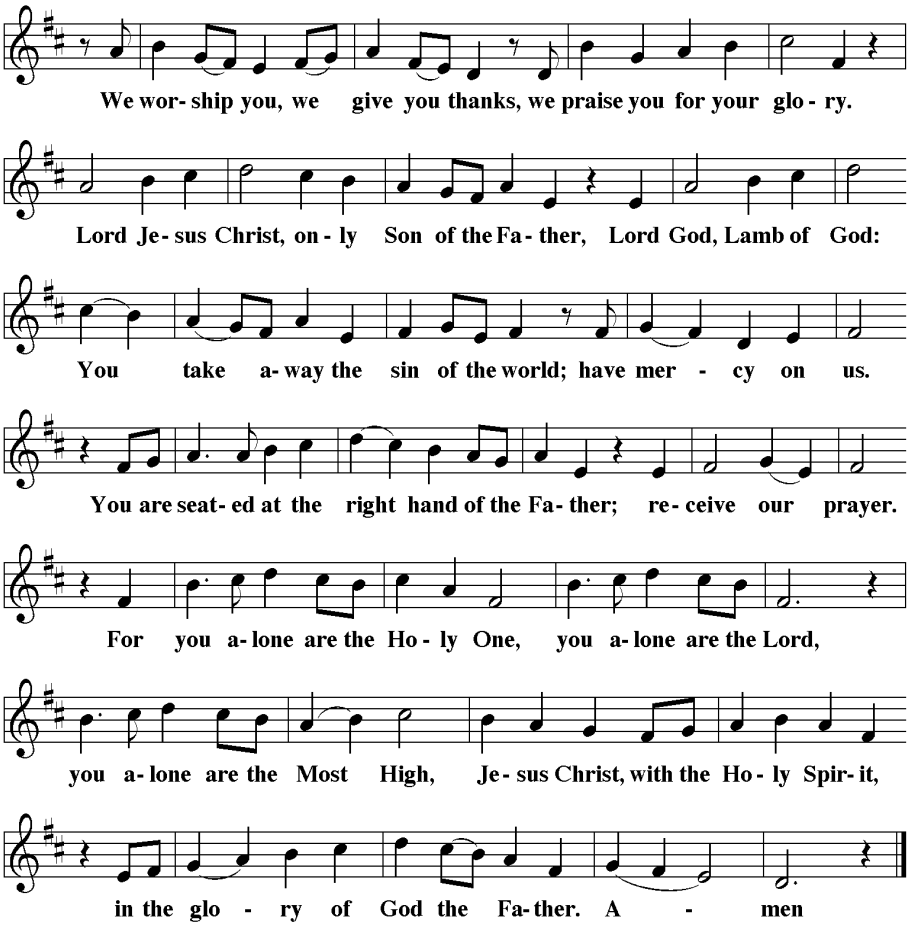
***GREETING**
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

*KYRIE



*HYMN OF PRAISE





***PRAYER OF THE DAY**



P Let us pray.

Lord, when the day of wrath comes we have no hope except in Your grace. Make us so to watch for the last days that the consummation of our hope may be the joy of the marriage feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

FIRST LESSON: **Amos 5:18–24**

A The First Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM: **PSALM 70**
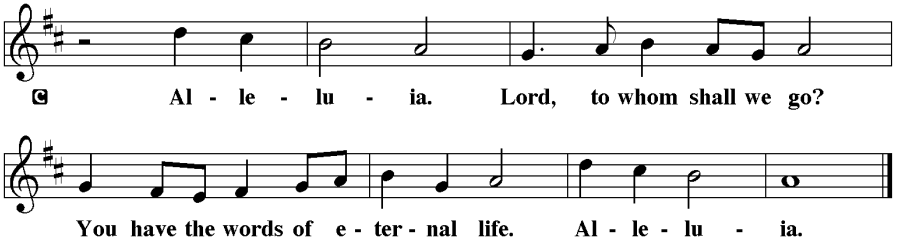
Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.
2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dismayed;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back,
because they are ashamed.
4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever,
"Great is the LORD!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy;
come to me speedily, O God.
6 You are my helper and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND LESSON: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–18

A The Second Lesson is from the fourth chapter of First Thessalonians.

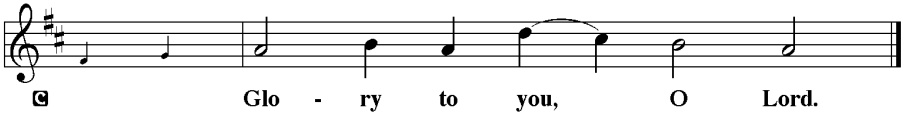
13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who
are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so,
through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are
alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those
who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from
heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with
the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with
them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be
with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

A Here ends the reading



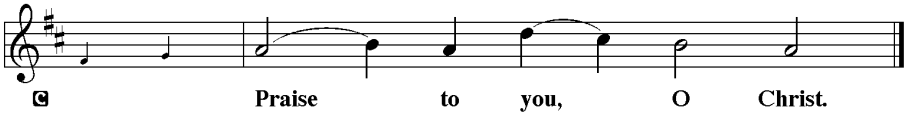
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.



"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their
lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise. 3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no
oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the
bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. 6 But at
midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet
him.' 7 Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the
foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be
enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for
yourselves.' 10 And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came,
and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and
the door was shut. 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying,
'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not
know you.' 13 Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the
hour.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** "*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*" *LBW 25*

SERMON *"Be Prepared"*

***APOSTLES' CREED**
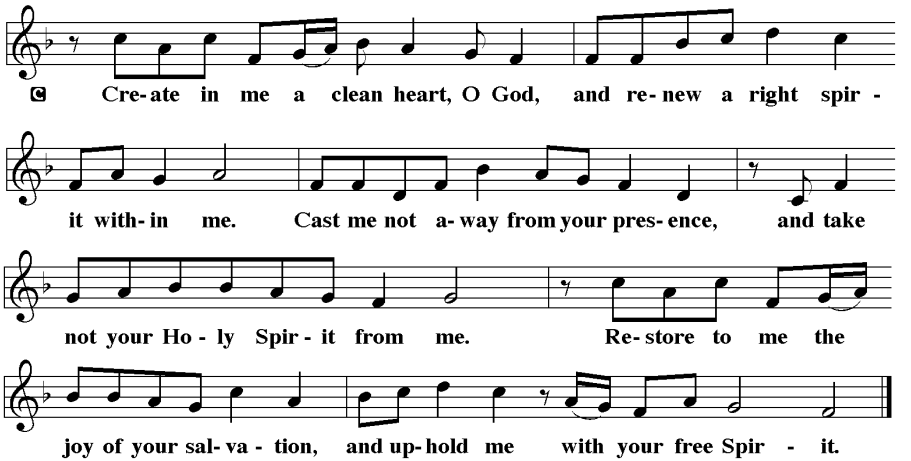
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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 *"It is Well With My Soul"* *arr. McDonald*

***OFFERTORY**



***THE PRAYERS**

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

Heavenly Father, we are sometimes foolish, not wise; scatterbrained, not prudent; reactive, not responsive. Forgive us! Remind us of the privilege of being invited to your Son's wedding feast! Fill us with your Holy Spirit's wisdom. Let us always rejoice, believe, and show the light of faith, hope, and love in this dark world.

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.
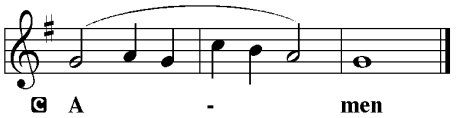
C Amen

***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** *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"* *LBW 526*

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"Festal Postlude"* *Handel*

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

Mark Your Calendars

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."

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday 11/8	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	Thrivent Turkey Dinner	
Monday 11/9	7:00 p.m.	Council
Tuesday 11/10	Noon	Women's Bible Study
	6:15 – 7:30 p.m.	SPARK
Wednesday 11/11	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	Noon	Student Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Senior bells
	6:30 p.m.	PJ's Bible Study
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 11/12	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Saturday 11/14	8:00 p.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast
	10:00 a.m.	Evangelism Mtg.
	EVERYONE WELCOME	
Sunday 11/15	8:30 a.m.	Rock of Our Salvation
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	10:00 a.m.	Ignition Cafe
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion

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

will return at the King's restaurant on **Tuesday, November 10th at noon.** Any questions, please contact Cheryl Mechling at rock92@comcast.net .
All are welcome!

Adopt-A-Family Holiday Project 2026

All gifts should remain **unwrapped** and separated by child in a clean bag. Please indicate the family number, child's number and your sponsor number on the bag (listed below and at the top of the information pages).

Please place a check mark in the box next to each item you wish to purchase.

Purchase and place **unwrapped** item in a gift bag. Request a gift receipt when purchasing the gift, and enclose it with the gift.

Fill out and place a gift tag on each gift with the child's number. (e.g. Family 20, Child 1)

IMPORTANT! Indicate the contents of each package using a "Post-it" note on the outside of the package. (This information is to be used by the committee only).

Bring gifts to the church by **Sunday, November 29, 2026**.
Any questions: Contact Michelle Kozlowski @ 724-816-1680

Poinsettia ORDERS

If you would like to place a poinsettia(s) in our Church for the Christmas Eve Service, please complete this form and return with your check made payable to: **"St. John's Lutheran Church"** marked **"Christmas Flowers"** in the memo line. The Poinsettias are $10.00 each.

Orders must be received by December 3, 2026

Number of ***RED*** _____ Number of ***WHITE*** _____

I wish for the acknowledgment in the bulletin to read as follows:

PLEASE PRINT, USING FIRST AND LAST NAMES

IN ***MEMORY*** OF _____

_____

IN ***HONOR*** OF _____

_____

GIVEN BY: _____

OFFERING ENVELOPE NUMBER:_____

Please check one: Check _____Cash_____

Check #_____Amount $_____

Please check one:

_____I will take my poinsettia(s) with me after the Christmas Eve Service.

_____Please take my poinsettia to a shut-in.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister	Mollie Bouch
Lector	Linda Charley
Acolytes	TBD
Camera Operators	Bill Bouch

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 of God, and in loving memory of Jerry Mentch, by Susan and Marianne Mentch.

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