

St. John's Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

April 23, 2023

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 the Service of Word and Sacrament this morning as we celebrate the **Third Sunday of Easter**. 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 living Christ, because You live, we live. Because You love us, so too can we love. The whole of our joy is in You, and we bow down before You with praise and thanksgiving. Through Your holy risen name we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Paraphrase on a Theme"

"Guilmant"

***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**

"The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done!"

LBW 135

***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



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



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



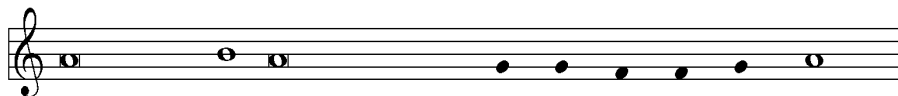
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



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

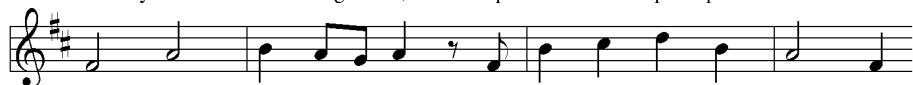


A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra- cious Lord. **G** A - men

*HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



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,

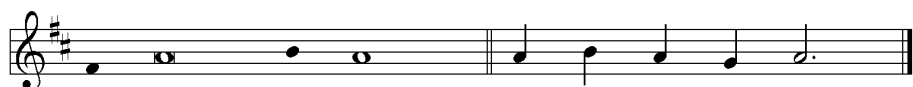


you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,



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, by the humiliation of Your Son You lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant Your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

FIRST LESSON:

ACTS 2:14A, 36–41

A The First Lesson is from the second chapter of Acts.

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.

³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

Psalm 116:1–3, 10–17

I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

²**The cords of death entangled me;**

the grip of the grave took hold of me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

³Then I called upon the name of the LORD:

"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

¹⁰**How shall I re- pay the LORD**

for all the good things he has done for me?

¹¹I will lift up the cup of salvation

and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹²**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD**

in the presence of all his people.

¹³Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his servants.

¹⁴**O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

¹⁵I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁶**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,**

¹⁷in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON:

1 Peter 1:17–23

A The Second Lesson is from the first chapter of First Peter.

¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

A Here ends the reading.

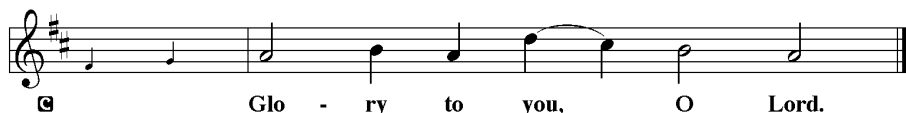
*VERSE



GOSPEL:

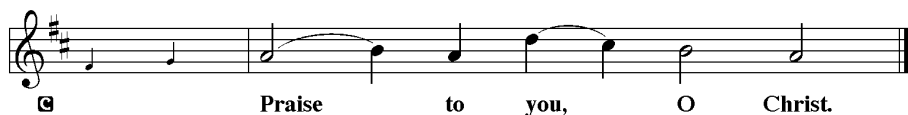
Luke 24:13–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 24th chapter.



¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹ And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵ And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. ²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!"

LBW 144

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

ANTHEM

"Easter Chorale and Alleluia"

Purifoy

*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.

*THE PRAYERS

Let us pray to our risen Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

A brief silence

Thank you, Jesus, for walking with us on our Emmaus roads, for speaking, not over our heads, but with clear words that bring Scripture to life in our hearts, for making yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread, for your patient kindness when we are sad and bewildered. 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

***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.



A - men

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"

LBW 147

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Grand Chorus"

Weitz

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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 after worship.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHNS

Today	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday 4/24	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Music
Wednesday 4/26	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	6:15 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 4/27	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
Sunday 4/30	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group



SUNDAY

Youth Sunday is postponed to May 21st.



eat!

Katie's Cupboard

More than 38 million people-including 12 million children-in the U.S. experience food insecurity, leaving families to make hard choices between paying bills or buying groceries. Together, let's help everyone get enough to

Suggested food pantry items:

- Canned tuna, ham or chicken
- Macaroni and cheese
- Pasta sauce and spaghetti
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Beef stew, chili, hearty soups
- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Cereals
- Toiletries Cleaning & paper products

Donations to Katie's Cupboard can be left in the church parlor or in the outside cupboard at any time. Also, St. Johns accepts your donations of monetary gifts to buy items to stock the cupboard. For more information, please contact Tammy Fleege @ 724-664-1773.

Thank you for your support!



Annual Spring Concert
Sunday, May 7th, 2023

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

At 7:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary.

The Senior & Junior Bell Choirs
and
the Senior & Children's Vocal Choirs
(Under the direction of Rebecca Veith)

Mark your calendars...
you don't want to miss this!

The concert is free and open to the public.
So, bring your family, friends and neighbors
and celebrate spring with us! Refreshments to follow!

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister
Lector
Acolyte
Welcome Team
Camera Operator

Karen Waugaman
Charlesetta Bleakney
Marlee Smith
Bailey family
Keith Livengood

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry
Secretary
Sexton
Organist/Choir Director/Director of Music
Sr. Choir Accompanist

Julie Smith
Christine Lettrich
Michael Craft
Rebecca Veith
Elizabeth Cramer

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