

# 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](http://www.stjohnskittanning.org)

Church e-mail: [stjohnskittanning@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnskittanning@gmail.com)

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

**February 1, 2026**  
**11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE**

## THE BEATITUDES

“Rejoice  
and be glad,  
for your reward  
is great in  
heaven.”

Matthew 5:12, ESV

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 **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**. 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:*

*Father in heaven, from whom alone come life and freedom, deepen our understanding and faith during our worship of You to the end that we may truly follow Your Holy will in our lives. Amen.*

**PRELUDE***"Prelude in C major"***\*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**    *"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"*                    **LBW 90**

**\*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. C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C 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.

C 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. C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

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

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



We worship 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



**P** The Lord be with you. **G** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, You know that we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us. Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with Your help, we may be able to overcome the weakness that our sin has brought upon us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord. **Amen**

### FIRST LESSON:

**MICAH 6:1-8**

**A** The First Lesson is from the sixth chapter of Micah.

Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,

for the LORD has an indictment against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> “O my people, what have I done to you?  
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,  
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> “With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**A** Here ends the reading.

**PSALM:**

**PSALM 15**

LORD, who may dwell in Your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon Your holy hill?

**2Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right,  
who speaks the truth from his heart,**

<sup>3</sup> there is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend;  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**4In his sight the wicked is rejected,  
but he honors those who fear the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup> He has sworn to do no wrong  
and does not take back his word.

**6He does not give his money in hope of gain,  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

<sup>7</sup> Whoever does these things  
shall never be overthrown.

**SECOND LESSON:****1 CORINTHIANS 1:18–31**

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

<sup>18</sup> For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

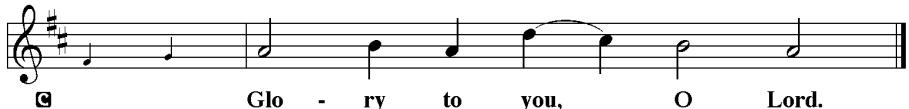
**A** Here ends the reading.

**\*VERSE**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*GOSPEL:****MATTHEW 5:1–12**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fifth chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup> And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

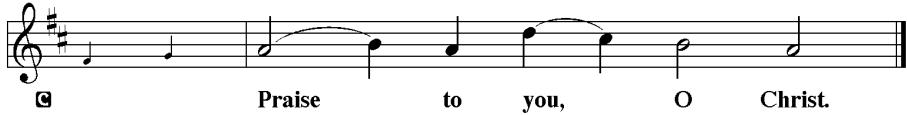
<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.



## CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Lift High the Cross”*

*LBW 377*

## SERMON

### \*NICENE CREED

**C** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

## \*THE PRAYERS

Let us pray that the light of Christ may shine upon the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

*A brief silence*

Father, thank you for Jesus and his teaching! His Beatitudes challenge, humble, and energize us. Give us a double portion of your Holy Spirit, so that by your grace, we may begin to live out those Beatitudes, to your glory and for the blessing and benefit of others.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*(Other intercessions are offered)*

**L** 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

*"Blest Are They"*

Haas

## \*OFFERTORY

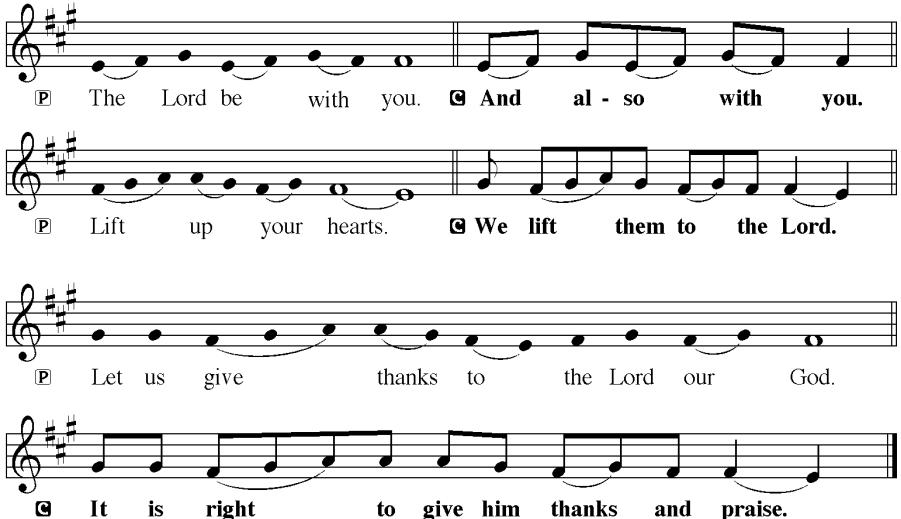
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Blessed are You,

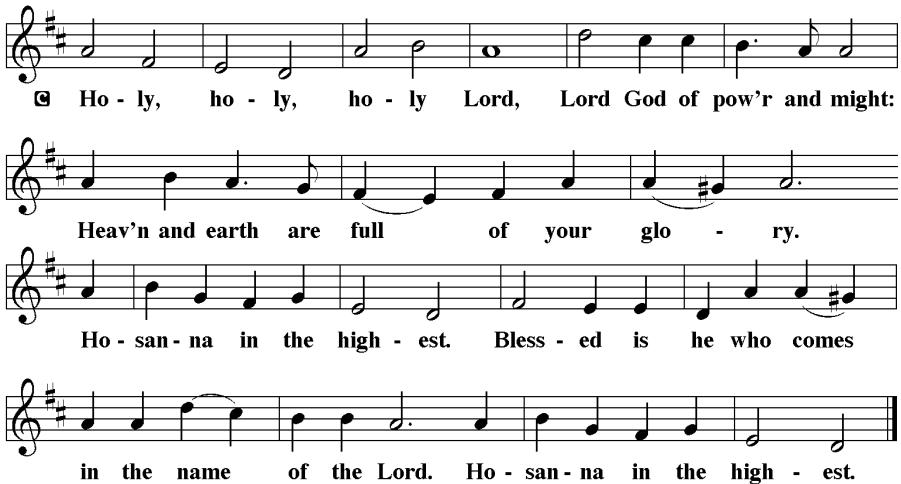
**C** O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Great Thanksgiving is a musical setting in G major with a treble clef. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the text "P The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you." The second staff contains "P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord." The third staff contains "P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff contains "C It is right to give him thanks and praise." The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes connected by beams.

**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. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



The Unending Hymn is a musical setting in G major with a treble clef. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the text "C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:". The second staff contains "Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry." The third staff contains "Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes". The fourth staff contains "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes connected by beams.

## EUCARISTIC PRAYER

**P** Blessed are You, LORD of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world, You gave Your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to You for the salvation You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**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

**O**ur Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**G**ive 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.

**F**or thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen



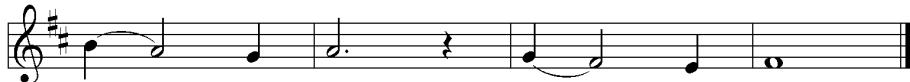
**C** Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer- cy on us.



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 205, 198, 222, 224, WOV 654*

### \*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.*

*(Gluten-Free Communion Wafers are available, please inform the Pastor of your needs)*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C** Amen

### \*CANTICLE



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev- 'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev- 'ry- one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud- ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** Let us pray....Pour out upon us the Spirit of Your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom You have fed with one heavenly food: through 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 ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



**A** - men

#### \*RECESSATIONAL HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory" LBW 415

#### \*DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### POSTLUDE

"Fanfare for Organ"

Arnatt

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 #11425682.

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,  
in Eric Cook's honor,  
following worship in the  
Gathering space.***





## ERIC COOK DAY

# celebration

Today St. John's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration continues with:

### Eric Cook Day

In celebration of his contribution to St. John's worship life as organist and bell choir director from 2003 to 2007 Eric will be playing the organ for us once again. He will be honored with a coffee hour following worship.

As we celebrate 200 years of music in the church praising God, we thank God for Eric's worship leadership.



# CHOIR

## NEW VOICES NEEDED



### 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."*

# Monday Bible Study in Lent

Pastor Johnson will be leading a Bible Study on the book of Mark each **Monday** in Lent beginning on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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.

February 25 <sup>th</sup>	Ten Commandments
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Apostles' Creed
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Lord's Prayer
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	The Sacraments, Confession
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy



## Lenten Men's Prayer Breakfasts

**Saturday, February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 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.

## Needed for Altar Care:

Plastic or Metal coffee cans for altar flowers. 30-to-40-ounce cans are ideal.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with every Sunday, can you serve?



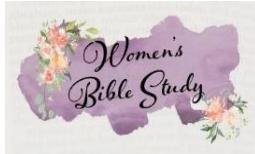
## Ash Wednesday Worship Service



The Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be held on **February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** This is the beginning of our Lenten journey. Please plan to attend this meaningful service of ashes and Holy Communion as we embark together on our Lenten Disciplines.

## Women's Bible Study

will return at the King's restaurant on **Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at noon.** Any questions, please contact Rose Montgomery at [rosetrix38@comcast.net](mailto:rosetrix38@comcast.net). All are welcome!

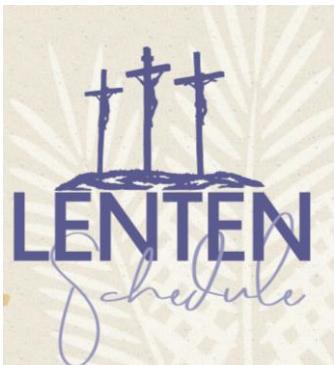


## KMA Community Lenten Worship Services Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Feb. 24	First Methodist	Pastor Matthew Vatalare
Mar. 3	St. Paul's	Joe Weister
Mar 10		
Mar. 17		
Mar. 24	St. Luke's U.C.C.	Major Brent Carlson

## KMA Lenten Luncheons Schedule Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m.

Feb 25	Grace Presbyterian	Rev. John Hopkins
Mar 4	St. Paul's Episcopal	Rev. Brandon Cooper
Mar 11	First Methodist / Hope Center	Ross Perrine
Mar 18	First Baptist	Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Mar 25	St. Mary's Catholic	Father Eric Dinga



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

<b>Sunday 2/1</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Rock of Our Salvation
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Campfire
<b>Monday 2/2</b>	7:00 p.m.	Property
<b>Wednesday 2/4</b>	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:00 a.m.	PJ's Bible Study
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
<b>Thursday 2/5</b>	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
<b>Sunday 2/8</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship



## Annual Congregational Meeting

ReScheduled because of snow for  
**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

### Katie's Cupboard

Our Lenten Journey for 2026 starts February 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Imagine the power of Forty!

For Forty days of Lent, we are to “**give up something**”, but can we? Can we **give up** worrying where our next meal is coming from? Can we **give up** wondering how to get our clothes clean? Can we **give up** the scraps from our table to try and feed our fur babies?

Look thru your closets, can you donate your excess blankets and towels to the local Pet shelter? *If you need to know how, just ask us~* If you can shop at Dollar Tree dollar section, their laundry detergent is just \$1.00 for a few loads.

Your donations of proteins & food items, band aids, soap and detergents, as well as pet food go far in assisting the community thru Katie's Cupboard.

**Can you find one item a day to donate to Katie's or your local pet shelter?**

Jesus was the **one** to make the supreme sacrifice for us.

**One** thing can make a difference to someone in need~  
Imagine the power of Forty!



## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister  
Lector  
Communion Assistants  
  
Acolyte  
Welcome team  
Camera Operator

Debbie Bouch  
Emily Bouch  
Sue Neal, Susan Barto  
Karina Blose, Kay Thorell  
Emma Nemchek  
Wranich Family  
Nick Wranich

## STAFF MEMBERS

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

Julie Smith  
Angela B. Clever  
TBD  
Rebecca Veith  
Elizabeth Cramer



**The flowers on the altar** this morning are given to the Glory of God, and in Memory of Dale Smart's birthday on January 29th by Ruth Ann and Daniel D. Crawford.

## 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.*



St. John's Lutheran Church  
Kittanning, PA