

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street
Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Parsonage: 724-548-5512

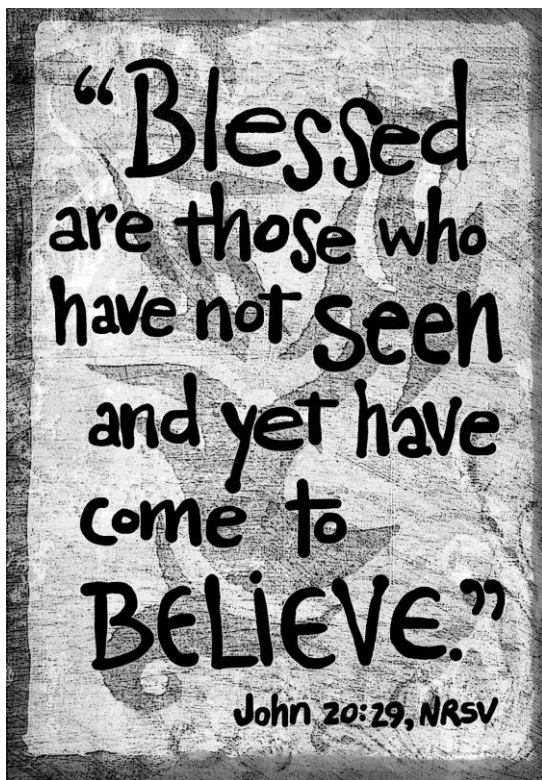
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

April 16, 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 **Second 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:

Eternal and living God, who has established Your Church on earth as the body of Christ, guide and direct each of us in faithfully following You in the spirit of unity, love, and thankfulness. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE*"Christus Resurrexit"**"Young"****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** *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"* **LBW 143**

***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.



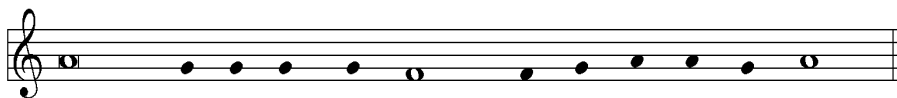
Ⓐ For the peace from a- bove, and for our sal- vation, let us pray to the Lord.



☞ Lord, have mer - cy.



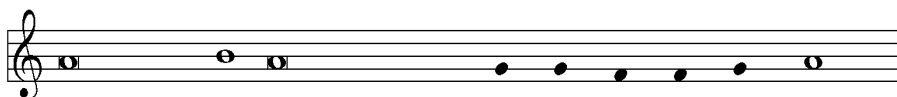
¶ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



☞ 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. **☩ Lord, have mer - cy.**



Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Ⓒ Amen

*HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

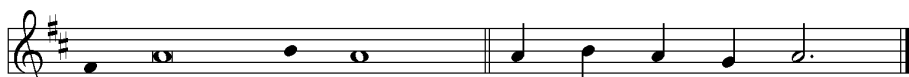


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY



☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And al - so with you.

L Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the festival of our Lord's resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; 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, 22–32

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.

²² “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— ²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,

or let your Holy One see corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;

you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹ “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

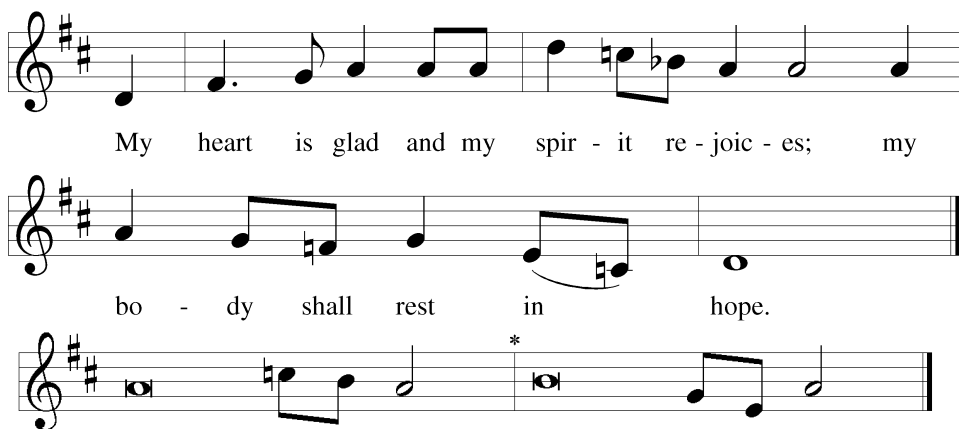
³⁰ Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne,

³¹ he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

PSALM 16



Protect me, O God, for I take ref-¹uge in you;*
I have said to the LORD, "You are my LORD,
my good a-¹bove all other."

**²All my delight is upon the godly that are¹ in the land,*
upon those who are noble a-¹mong the people.**

³But those who run after¹ other gods*
shall have their troubles¹ multiplied.

**⁴Their libations of blood I¹ will not offer,*
nor take the names of their gods up-¹on my lips. R**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion¹ and my cup;*
it is you who up-¹hold my lot.

**⁶My boundaries enclose a¹ pleasant land;*
indeed, I have a¹ goodly heritage.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who¹ gives me counsel;*
my heart teaches me, night¹ after night.

**⁸I have set the LORD al-¹ways before me;*
because he is at my right hand I¹ shall not fall. R**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir-¹it rejoices;*
my body also shall¹ rest in hope.

**¹⁰For you will not abandon me¹ to the grave,*
nor let your holy one¹ see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the¹ path of life;*
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for-¹evermore. R

SECOND LESSON:

1 PETER 1:3–9

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

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A Here ends the reading.

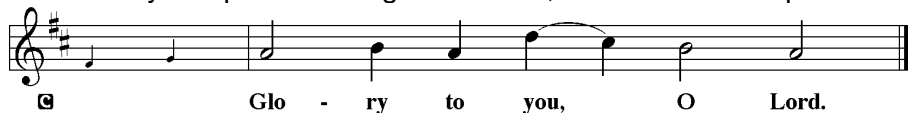
*VERSE



GOSPEL:

JOHN 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any,

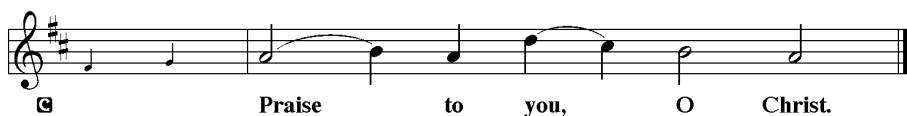
they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN** “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

LBW 151

SERMON

***SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

Page 121

*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

Lord Jesus, when news seems too good to be true, we hesitate to lose our hearts to it. We're afraid we might be losing our minds, too! Like Thomas, we want proof before we commit. Forgive our fears and strengthen our faith. Remind us, again and again, that your Good News is too good not to be true. 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

*PEACE

P The peace of the LORD be with you always.


C And also with you.

ANTHEM

"Salvation is Created"

Tschesnokoff

*OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. 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 Let us pray.

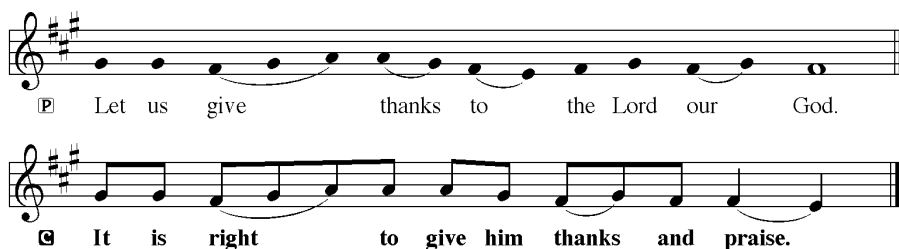
A Blessed are You,

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



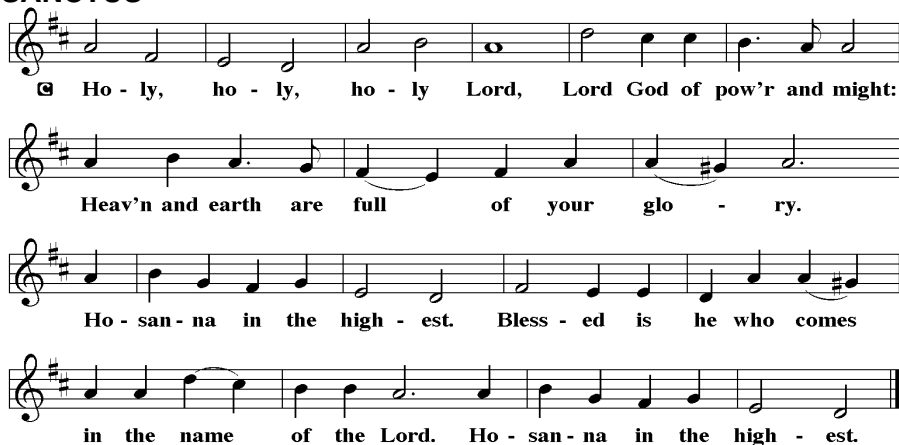
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



PREFACE

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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for He is the true Passover Lamb who gave Himself to take away our sin, who by His death has destroyed death, and by His rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS



EUCCHARISTIC 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

**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**



COMMUNION HYMNS

LBW 199, 210, 363, 377, 200

***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.

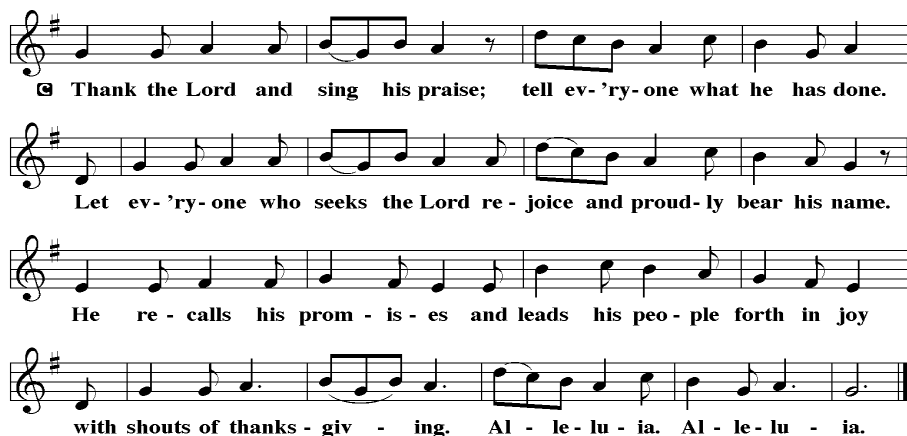
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

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

C Amen

*CANTICLE



☪ 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....We give You thanks almighty God, that You have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in Your mercy You would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of 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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Borning Cry"

WOV 770

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Thine is the Glory"

arr. Young

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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 in celebration of Erik's baptism!



Sacrament of
Holy Baptism

*Today we welcome into the Church through
the Sacrament of Holy Baptism Erik Paul Sapp.*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHNS

Today	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
Monday 4/17	7:00 p.m.	Mutual ministry
Tuesday 4/18	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible study (<i>Chapel</i>)
Wednesday 4/19	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	6:15 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:30 p.m.	Senior choir
Thursday 4/20	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Sunday 4/23	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion

****YOUTH GROUP SOUP SALE****

Soup will be for sale throughout various times in the church social hall during the Library book sale Wednesday, April 19th - Saturday April 22nd
Thank you for your support!

Easter flower insert correction: In memory of Earl Schall from Christine Schall was accidentally omitted from the flower insert.



SUNDAY

Youth Sunday is postponed to May 21st.



Annual Spring Concert
Sunday, May 7th, 2022

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!



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 eat!

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 Fleeger @ 724-664-1773.

Thank you for your support!

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister	Julie Smith (E) Kay Thorell (L)
Lector	Jill Wranich (E) Richard Thorell (L)
Comm. Assistants	Nick Wranich (E) Cheryl Mechling, Sara Shafer, Brett & Megan Taylor(L)
Acolytes	Elizabeth Smoyer(E) Emily & Mollie Bouch, Quinn Kellner, Colvin Adkins(L)
Welcome Teams	The Smoyer family(E) The Shafer family(L)
Camera Operators	Nick Wranick(E) Bill Bouch(L)

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	Christine Lettrich
Sexton	Michael Craft
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 Jeffrey Picardi Hughes from Gene Hughes.

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



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Kittanning, PA