

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street
Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

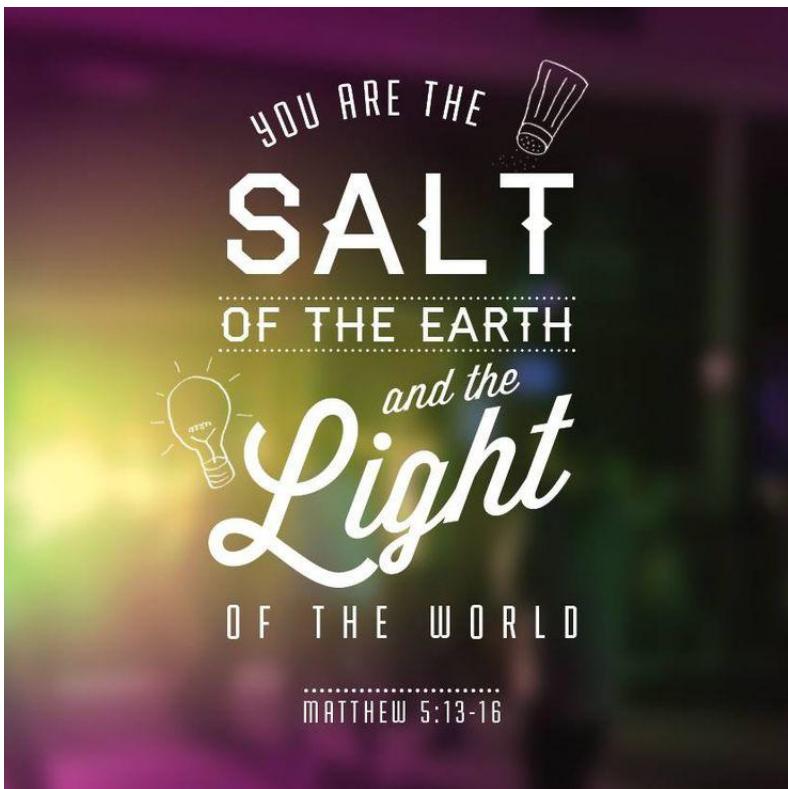
Phone (724) 548-2051 Home: 724-548-5512

Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

February 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 **Fifth Sunday after 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:

O God, let Your Light and Your salvation come to us in all of its fullness and brightness, so that Christ may be seen and heard and touched by us and in us. Amen.

PRELUDE

"Chorale. Prelude"

Brahms

***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**

"Rise, Shine, You People!"

LBW 393

***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 Glo-ry 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 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



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

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, You sent Your only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us to believe with joy what the Scriptures proclaim, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 58:1-12

A The First Lesson is from the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah.

"Cry aloud; do not hold back;

lift up your voice like a trumpet;
declare to my people their transgression,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet they seek me daily
 and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that did righteousness
 and did not forsake the judgment of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
 they delight to draw near to God.

³ 'Why have we fasted, and you see it not?
 Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?'
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
 and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
 and to hit with a wicked fist.
Fasting like yours this day
 will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
 a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
 and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
Will you call this a fast,
 and a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ "Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of wickedness,
 to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
 and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
 and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
 the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
 you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'

If you take away the yoke from your midst,
 the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

¹⁰ if you pour yourself out for the hungry
 and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,
then shall your light rise in the darkness
 and your gloom be as the noonday.

¹¹ And the LORD will guide you continually
 and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters do not fail.

¹² And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to dwell in.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM

Psalm 112:1–10

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in his commandments!

**²Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

**⁴Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**⁶For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is right; they put their trust in the LORD.

**⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor,
and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**¹⁰The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 2:1–16

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

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴ and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass

away.⁷ But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.¹¹ For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.¹³ And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.¹⁵ The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one.¹⁶ “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

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 5:13–20

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

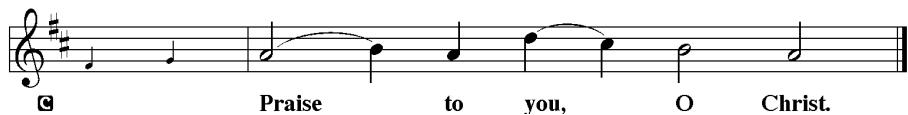
¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand,

and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** “God, Whose Almighty Word” *LBW 400*

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.

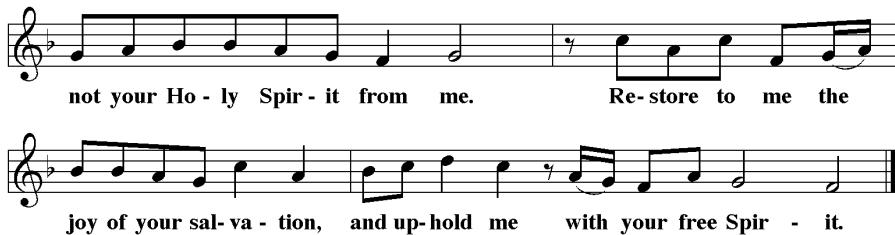
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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 “The Power of Your Love” *Bullock*
Ladies Ensemble

*OFFERTORY





*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

Heavenly Father, your Word is challenge, command, and marching orders for us. But we often stumble, fall short, or go AWOL in fulfilling it! Thank you for Jesus, who fulfilled your Word and who IS your Word. Thank you for planting his grace, mercy, and obedience in our hearts. For his sake, make us like him: salt and light, hope and holiness, so others may turn to Him and live.

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.



*CLOSING HYMN

"The Church of Christ, in Every Age"

LBW 433

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Deo Gracias"

Jenkins

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.



WELCOME PASTOR NEAL

Please welcome Pastor James F. Neal, S.T.S. as he supplies today while Pastor Johnson is away. Pastor Neal is a retired pastor, husband to Susan and a father and grandfather. He is a member of the Society of the Holy Trinity, renowned Theologian, and general all-around nice guy. His primary role these days is as a house husband and very active grandparent, (the highest of callings!). We are blessed to have him lead worship this day!

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday 2/8	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Tuesday 2/10	12:00 p.m.	Women's Study at Kings
Wednesday 2/11	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 2/12	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Friday 2/13	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
Sunday 2/15	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 Congregational Meeting Fat Sunday Youth Fundraiser

Fat Sunday



Youth Fundraiser

FAT SUNDAY BREAKFAST
Annual BREAKFAST Casserole
Bake Off!

Win the Sought-after
EGGO Trophy! after 11am Worship
Sunday Feb. 15th

Mark Your Calendars

February 15	Congregational Meeting
February 18	Ash Wednesday
March 14	CPR Certification
April 5	Easter
May 3	Spring Concert
May 24	Pentecost Sunday (Confirmation)

Annual Congregational Meeting

ReScheduled because of snow for

February 15th, 2025



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."**



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>



SPARK

IGNITING FAITH, EQUIPPING KIDS

AT St. Johns Kittanning
February 17th 2026

6:15-7:30pm
FROSTY FESTIVAL
WINTER CARNIVAL

Dinner, Bible Story,
Exciting, faith building
Interactive SNOWY stations with games,
crafts and activities!

Preschool-6th Grade
COST: FREE!

Parents! Stay and hang out,
relax and rest, or run some errands!

Text **SPARK** to 724 276 5321
for weather updates,
announcements and reminders

NEW TO SPARK??

REGISTER YOUR CHILD AT

www.tinyurl.com/sparkstjohnskittanning

Katie's Cupboard

Our Lenten Journey for 2026 starts February 18th. 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?

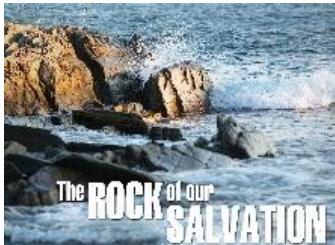
Look thru your closets, can you donate your excess blankets and towels to the local Pet shelter? *If you need to know how, just ask us~* If you can shop at Dollar Tree dollar section, their laundry detergent is just \$1.00 for a few loads.

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!



Rock of our Salvation Worship

8:30 a.m. Sunday
February 15th

Have You
Been
Baptized?



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 23rd.

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 th	Ten Commandments
March 4 th	Apostles' Creed
March 11 th	Lord's Prayer
March 18 th	The Sacraments, Confession
March 25 th	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?



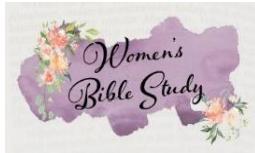
Ash Wednesday Worship Service



The Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be held on **February 18th 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 10th at noon.** Any questions, please contact Rose Montgomery at rosetrix38@comcast.net. All are welcome!

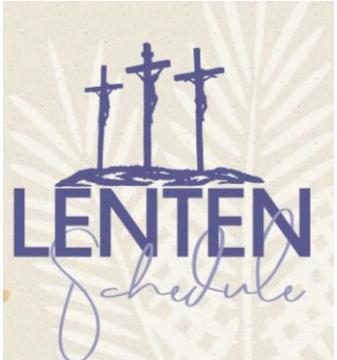


KMA Community Lenten Worship Services Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Feb. 24	First Methodist	Pastor Matthew Vatalare
Mar. 3	St. Paul's	Pastor Joe Weister
Mar 10	Kittanning	Pastor Andrew Laddusaw
Mar. 17	Living Water	Pastor Johnson
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	St. Mary's Catholic	Father Eric Dinga
Mar 18	First Baptist	Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Mar 25	First Methodist / Hope Center	Rev. Ross Perrine



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister
Lector
Acolyte
Welcome team
Camera Operator

Keith Livengood
Brendan Swanson
TBD
Swanson Family
William Bouch

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 flower chart for 2026 has been posted in the narthex. Please take this opportunity to sign up for the dates that you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one or special event. You may also call the church office. **Flowers are \$70.00.**

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.*

GRACE
happens



at
St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA