

# -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

**January 1, 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 the Word this morning as we celebrate **The Circumcision of our Lord/The Name of Jesus**. 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:*

*We lift our voices in prayer to You, Lord, and You hear; we present our lives in prayer, and You see; grant to us Your peace and wholeness in all that we do. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

*"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"*

*arr. Wyton*

**\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** We worship this day in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God.

*Silence for self-examination.*

**P** Holy and gracious God,

**C I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness.**

**P** The Almighty and Merciful Lord grants you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

**\*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.



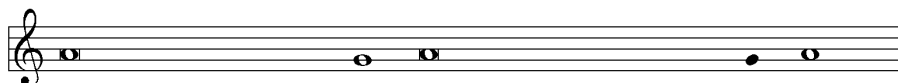
**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



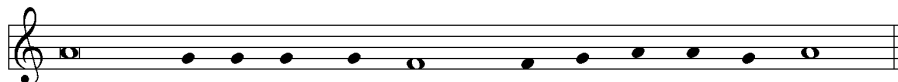
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

\*Those who are able, please stand

LBW—Green Hymnal WOV—Blue Hymnal



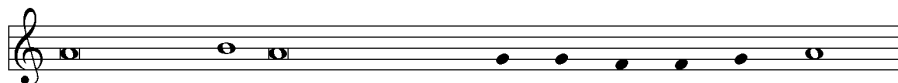
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



☞ Lord, have mer - cy.



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



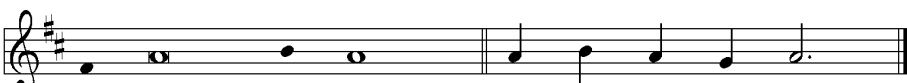
let us pray to the Lord. ☞ Lord, have mer - cy.



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

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY



☞ The Lord be with you. ☞ And al - so with you.

**P** Eternal Father, You gave Your Son the name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## FIRST LESSON:

**Numbers 6:22-27**

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

22 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 23 “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus, you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

24 The LORD bless you and keep you;

25 the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

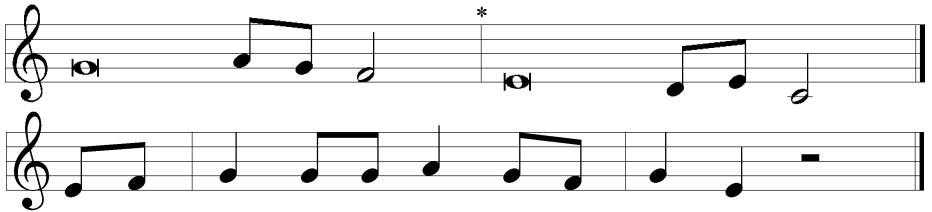
26 the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

27 “So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

**A** Here ends the reading.

**PSALM:**

**PSALM 8**



You a - dorn us with glo - ry and hon - or.

O | LORD our LORD,\*

how exalted is Your name in | all the world!

**2Out of the mouths of in- | fants and children\***

**Your majesty is praised a- | bove the heavens. R**

3You have set up a stronghold against Your | adversaries,\*  
to quell the enemy and | the avenger.

**4When I consider Your heavens, the work | of Your fingers,\*  
the moon and the stars You have set | in their courses,**

5what is man that You should be mind- | ful of him,\*  
the son of man that You should | seek him out?

**6You have made him but little lower | than the angels;\***

**You adorn him with glo- | ry and honor; R**

7You give him mastery over the works | of Your hands;\*  
You put all things un- | der his feet:

**8all | sheep and oxen,\***

**even the wild beasts | of the field,**

9the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,\*  
and whatsoever walks in the paths | of the sea.

**10O | LORD our LORD,\***

**how exalted is Your name in | all the world! R**

**SECOND LESSON:****Galatians 4:4-7**

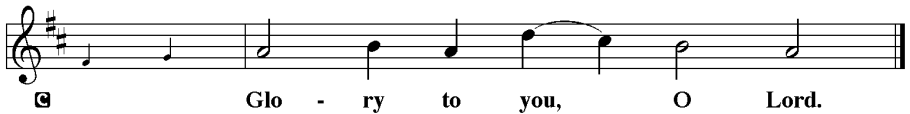
The Second Lesson is from the fourth chapter of Galatians.

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**A** Here ends the reading.

**\*VERSE****GOSPEL:****Luke 2:15-21**

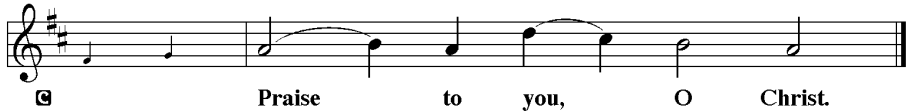
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

21 And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.



**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

**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**

**\*THE PRAYERS**

Let us pray that Jesus brings light, salvation, and peace to the church,  
the world, and all people.

*A brief silence*

Thank you, Jesus, for taking on our human nature and submitting  
yourself to your own Law. Thank you for shedding your blood, even as  
a tiny child, for our sake. Thank you that you do the very thing your  
name announces: you save your people from their sin. 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**

*“Mary, Did You Know”*

*arr. Schrader*

**\*OFFERTORY**



**C** Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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** Merciful Father,

**C** We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

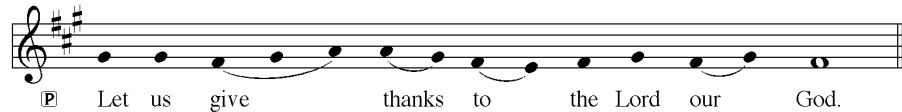
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.



♩ Lift up your hearts. ♪ We lift them to the Lord.



♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



♪ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## 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, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



♪ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**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**

**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



☐ 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** *(Sing the First Two verses of each:)*  
LBW 41, 54, 44, 65, 50, 71, 70

**\*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.*

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

### \*CANTICLE



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,



and will be for - ev - er. A - men

### \*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.



**C** A - men

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

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**\*DISMISSAL**

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**      *“Angels We have Heard on High”*      *arr. Chapman*

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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!*



**Annual Reports**

All Committee chairs, Sunday school presidents, organization presidents and treasurers, **please submit your reports to the church office by January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Our goal is to have the reports ready **2 weeks prior** to the Annual Meeting in January. With everyone’s cooperation, we can do it! If possible, please e-mail your report to:

[stjohnskittanning@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnskittanning@gmail.com)



**The flower chart for 2023 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. The price of altar flowers will be \$50.

## Congregational Meeting



### **Annual Congregational Meeting Scheduled for January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Our annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. We will review the Bulletin of Reports, approve a budget for 2023 and elect an endowment trustee.

### ***Empower the Mission and Ministry of St. John's!***

*Amounts needed in offerings to meet our budget in the following accounts:*

Current Account:	\$82,000.00
Benevolence:	\$20,000.00

**Every December we count on your generosity to make up the difference in these accounts so that we finish the year in the black.** This year presents a very great challenge for each and every

one of us! Please consider increasing your giving and/or making a significant one-time gift over and above your normal offerings. Thank you for your continued commitment to making the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ happen at St. John's.

## Creative ways of year end giving to St. John's:

- It is possible, if you are over 70 1/2, to make a direct payment from your IRA to St. John's. This saves the taxes and the gift is still eligible for a charitable gift deduction.
- 
- Giving stock saves capital gains taxes and the gift is still eligible for a charitable gift deduction.

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

<b>Sunday 1/1</b>	11:00 a.m.	Worship – Hymn Sing
<b>Monday 1/2</b>	7:00 p.m.	Office Closed <i>Happy New Year!</i> Property
<b>Tuesday 1/3</b>	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
<b>Wednesday 1/4</b>	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Children's Hour Senior Choir Pastor's Study
<b>Thursday 1/5</b>	9:30 a.m. 2:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Children's Hour Catechism Catechism
<b>Saturday 1/7</b>	9:00 a.m.	Finance Committee
<b>Sunday 1/8</b>	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Worship: Rock of Our Salvation Sunday School Senior Choir Worship Youth Group



**Pastor's Study**  
**Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**  
 We are looking at the Book of Revelation.  
 The study will follow the book, "Power and

Purpose,” a book written by Pastor Russell Lackey who says that we have been asking all the wrong questions and therefore losing our focus on what the book is really trying to say. Come explore this very misunderstood book of the Bible. ***This study is for entry level students!***

*You do not need to know anything about the Bible in order to attend!*

**College address addition:** Ashleigh Choncek, SMC #4822  
Duquesne University, 1345 Vickroy Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219



### **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

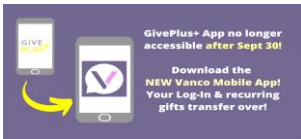
Donations to Katie's Cupboard can be left in the church parlor or in the outside cupboard at any time. Also, St. Johns accepts your donations of monetary gifts to buy items to stock the cupboard. For more information, please contact Tammy Fleeger @ 724-664-1773.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**January 22, 2023**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Women's Banquet**



## Vanco Electronic Giving APP

You can make a contribution to St. John's through a mobile app!

To get started, download "Vanco Mobile" for free from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "Vanco Mobile" to quickly find and download the app today. Then, you can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account. You can also choose to donate as a guest or set up an account that allows you to securely and conveniently schedule recurring donations and manage and review your giving history.

We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry and thank you for your support!

1. Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone.
2. Search for St Johns Lutheran Church.
3. Do NOT use a PERIOD after St, or comma in Johns to search.
4. Select St Johns Lutheran Church, 218 North Jefferson St, Kittanning PA.
5. Your information should be automatically transferred if you have an account with Give Plus already.
6. Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.
7. Log in or donate as a guest.
8. Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.



## Women's Bible Study

will be held at King's restaurant on Thursday, January 12th at noon.

Any questions, please contact Rose Montgomery @ [rosetrix\\_38@comcast.net](mailto:rosetrix_38@comcast.net). All are welcome!

## **SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

Assisting Minister  
Lector  
Comm. Assistants  
Acolytes  
  
Camera Operator

Rose Montgomery  
Julie Smith  
Julie & Marlee Smith  
Robert John, Cassidy Smith  
Anna Venesky, Emily Bouch  
Bill Bouch

## **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**