

# St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Home: 724-548-5512

Church Web Site: [www.stjohnkittanning.org](http://www.stjohnkittanning.org)

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

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

**July 12, 2020**

**8:30 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE**

***Other seeds fell  
on good soil and  
brought forth  
grain ....***

***Matthew 13:8, NRSV***



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 **Sixth Sunday of Pentecost**. 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:*

*Make full our joy, O Lord, that in bearing fruit and in obeying Your commandments, it may overflow to others. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.*

**PRELUDE***"Greater"**Lawrence/Carter/McGee***\*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**

**OPENING HYMN***"Waymaker"**Osinachi Joseph***\*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.**

**\*DIALOG**

**P:** Holy is the Lord, the Almighty,

**C: He was, He is, and He is to come.**

**P:** He is worthy of glory and honor and prayer.

**C: He created all thing. By His will they came to be.**

**P:** Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain;

**C: Worthy to take the scroll and break its seals.**

**P:** By His blood He purchased for God.

**C: people of every race and tongue, of every folk and nation.**

**P:** Christ made of them a kingdom.

**C: and priests to serve our God.**

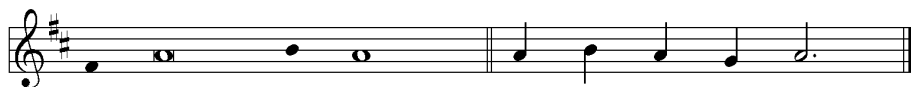
**P:** And they shall reign on earth forever.

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

**P:** The Lord be with you,

**C:** And also with you,

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**



¶ The Lord be with you.

**© And al - so with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank You for planting in us the seed of Your word. By Your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:10–13

**A** The First Lesson is from the 55th chapter of Isaiah.

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
 it shall not return to me empty,  
 but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
 and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12 “For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

**A** Here ends the reading.

## PSALM: Psalm 65:1–14

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;  
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

**<sup>2</sup>To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come,  
because of their transgressions.**

<sup>3</sup>Our sins are stronger than we are,  
but you will blot them out.

**<sup>4</sup>Happy are they whom you choose  
and draw to your courts to dwell there!  
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,  
by the holiness of your temple.**

<sup>5</sup>Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,  
O God of our salvation,  
O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.

**<sup>6</sup>You make fast the mountains by your power;  
they are girded about with might.**

<sup>7</sup>You still the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**<sup>8</sup>Those who dwell at the ends of the earth  
will tremble at your marvelous signs;  
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly;  
you make it very plenteous;  
the river of God is full of water.

**<sup>10</sup>You prepare the grain,  
for so you provide for the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

**<sup>12</sup>You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.**

<sup>13</sup>May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,  
and the hills be clothed with joy.

**<sup>14</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,  
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;  
let them shout for joy and sing.**

## SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:1–11

**A** The Second Lesson is from the eighth chapter of Romans.  
St. Paul writes:

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus

from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you

**A** Here ends the reading.

**P** Alleluia

**C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1–23**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.

<sup>2</sup> And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup> but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> He who has ears, let him hear."

<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been

given. <sup>12</sup> For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>13</sup> This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

““You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

<sup>15</sup> For this people's heart has grown dull,  
and with their ears they can barely hear,  
and their eyes they have closed,

lest they should see with their eyes

and hear with their ears

and understand with their heart

and turn, and I would heal them.’

<sup>16</sup> But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

<sup>17</sup> For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

<sup>18</sup> “Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup> yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup> As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### HYMN

*“Everlasting God”*

*Brown/Riley*

### 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 for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth, give strength to our fearful hearts. Teach us to be strong in our faith in You rather than fearful in our living of each day.

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**

## **ANTHEM**

*"We Praise You"*

*Matt Redman/Bethel Music*

## **OFFERING**

## **\*OFFERTORY**

**P:** The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you**

**P:** Lift up your hearts

**C: We lift them up to the Lord**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**C: it is right to give Him thanks and praise**

## **\*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER IV**

**P** We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he

stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This is my blood poured out for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you:

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church;  
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;  
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,  
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

**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.**



**☩ 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.**





*All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present  
in the Lord's Supper are invited to receive this Sacrament with us.*

## Communion

Communion Hymn: *"Great Are You Lord"* Leonard/Ingram/Jordan

**\*P:** The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ strengthen  
and keep you in His grace, unto eternal life.

**\*C: Amen.**

## \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**\*A:** Pour out the Spirit of Your Love, Oh Lord,  
and unite the wills of those 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.

## \*RECESSIONAL HYMN

*"Stand in Your Love"*  
Baldwin/Hulse/Springer/Harris

## \*DISMISSAL

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE *Instrumental "Stand in Your Love"*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

<b>Today</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Rock of Salvation
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
<b>Monday 7/13</b>	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	11:00 a.m.	Summer Lunch Program
<b>Tuesday 7/14</b>	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	11:00 a.m.	Summer Lunch Program
	1:00 p.m.	Youth Group
<b>Wed 7/15</b>	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	11:00 a.m.	Summer Lunch Program
<b>Thursday 7/16</b>	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	11:00 a.m.	Summer Lunch Program
<b>Friday 7/17</b>	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	11:00 a.m.	Summer Lunch Program
<b>Saturday 7/18</b>	8:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday 7/19</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion

Families, Kids, join us for 3 nights of  
Summer Fun Fair, in St. John's Parking lot  
6:30-8pm      3 best weather days

\*\*\*AUGUST 3-7\*\*\*

Weather updates on our facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/582889269030346/>

or St. John's Kittanning facebook page

Sign up at [https://vbsmate.com/events/](https://vbsmate.com/events/stjohnskittvbs/19611)

[stjohnskittvbs/19611](https://vbsmate.com/events/stjohnskittvbs/19611)

Kids 5 and under parents please attend

**VOLUNTEERS FOR VBS!**

We will need the following:  
items, games, craft items  
more...I will set up a list in  
VBS will be in the  
up a little like Trunk Or  
games, and stations.  
families to take a  
fall. Please let me know  
Remember, it's 3 nights,  
we will need people to make some decorations, and games, artwork, etc... During  
the month of July, during the day. Please contact Julie if you can help.



Specific donations for food  
and prize items and  
the back of the church.  
evening, and will be set  
Treat with carnival  
We are recruiting  
station, like we did in the  
if you are interested.

1.5 hours. Decorations: We



## **A Summer Ministry Project**

Give a Child the Opportunity to Succeed in School

Why school supplies? To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies mean the difference in keeping up in class. Public school is free, but few supplies are given to the students. The much-needed supplies, may be more than some parents can afford. These supplies will have a HUGE impact on many children's education and love of learning.

Please place your donated items in the box in the church narthex or the box in the new narthex (Gathering area) by the youth table. Thank you for your help!

### **All of us can collect school supplies! in each School Kit:**

- **Four 70-sheet notebooks:** of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- **One 30-centimeter ruler:** or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- **One pencil sharpener**
- **One blunt scissors** (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- **Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers;** secure together with a rubber band
- **Five black or blue ballpoint pens** (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- **One box of 16 or 24 crayons**
- **One 2½" eraser**
- **One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag** approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps or a standard backpack.

All items should be new and in good condition.

Watch the sales papers, many items are on sale now for "Back to School".

***Last year we collected 86 backpacks that were distributed. The challenge is before us.***

## **SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

Assisting Minister

Nancy Pierce (E)

Olivia Whiteman (L)

Lector

Karen Waugaman (E)

Christine Whiteman (L)

Comm. Assistants

Karen Waugaman & Nancy Pierce (E)

Camera Operator

Bill Bouch (E)

Keith Livengood (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

## **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.



## **Church Picnic**

Sunday, August 16, 2020

12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Belmont Complex Small Pavilion

Drinks, hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided.

Please bring your own tableware

and a covered dish or

dessert to share.

Don't forget your swim suit and sunscreen!