

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Home: 724-548-5512

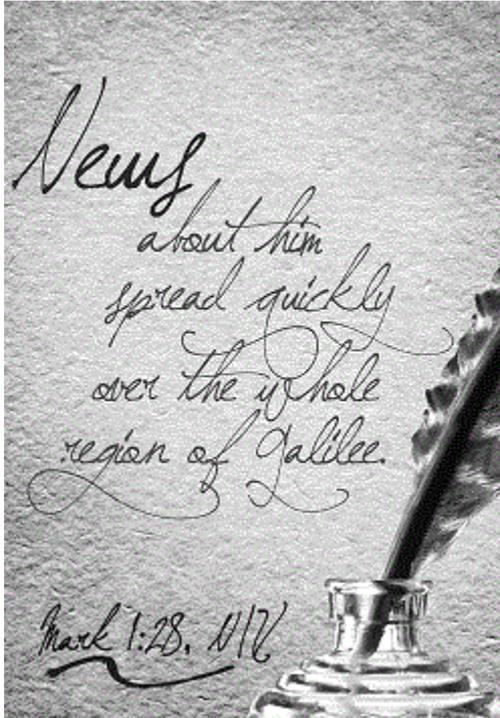
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

January 31, 2021

11:00 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 Fourth 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:

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*“Benedictus”**Reger****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“Shine, Jesus Shine”**WOV 651****GREETING**

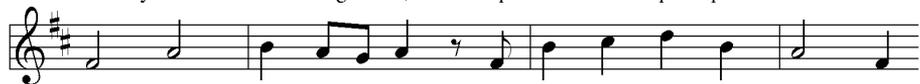
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE



☐ Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



☑ Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- migh- ty 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,

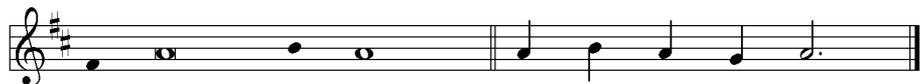


you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

*PRAYER OF THE DAY



☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

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

DEUTERONOMY 18:15–20

A The First Lesson is from the eighteenth chapter of Deuteronomy.

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ ¹⁷And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM

PSALM 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are the deeds of the LORD!

They are studied by all who delight in them.

³His work is full of majesty and splendor, and his righteousness endures forever.

**⁴He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵He gives food to those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**⁶He has shown his people the power of his works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure.

**⁸They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant forever;
holy and awesome is his name.

**¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.**

SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 8:1–13

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

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴ Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷ However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸ Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹ And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹² Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

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

MARK 1:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²¹ And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²² And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴ “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷ And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸ And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

LBW 415

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

OFFERING

"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name"
Rebecca Veith - Pianist

Fettke

*OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

*THE PRAYERS

With gratitude for the gift of Christ, let us draw near to our heavenly Father in prayer, asking his mercy for the Church, the world, and all who need his loving-kindness.

A brief silence

Holy God, thank you for bold prophets, faithful teachers, gentle caretakers, and ordinary saints who serve you by mentoring, guiding,

healing, and challenging us. Give us grace to go and do likewise. Lord,
in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

(Other intercessions are offered.)

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**

**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**

***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** “Give to Our God Immortal Praise!” *LBW 520*

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

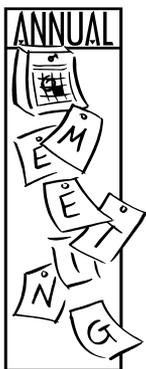
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“CWM Rhondda”

Arr. Manz

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Annual Congregational Meeting

**Scheduled for
TODAY!**

Our annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship today! We will review the Bulletin of Reports, approve a budget for 2021 and elect an endowment trustee.



The St. John's Care Team has been reactivated!

During these difficult times, if there's any help you may need from your church family, please contact the church office @ 724-548-2051.

In addition, COVID pending, the Care Team will be holding another meal distribution on **Saturday, February 13, 2021.**

Anyone can pre-order a meal. This is a great time to remember a neighbor or family member who could benefit.

The menu will consist of your choice of chicken noodle (homemade) or tomato soup, ham salad or chicken salad sandwich and cookies.

Donations are optional and not required to receive a meal, but will be accepted at the same time as the meal pick-up. Feel free to support this worthy cause!

Please call the church office by Thursday, February 4th to reserve a meal. Meals can be picked up at the side alley entrance to the church between 2:00-3:00 PM on Saturday, February 13th. Also donations of cookies would be most appreciated! A few individuals willing to deliver meals to our shut-ins are also needed. Cookies should be left at the church prior to Friday, February 12th. Please let the church office know if you are able to assist with cookie donations or delivery.

John 15:12 says "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Please join us as we share our love with those within our church family, our neighbors, friends, family and those in our community.

Mechling-Shakley Veterans Center

The local Mechling-Shakley Veterans Center has been "locked down" for a significant time due to COVID. We are taking up a collection of items such as non-perishable foods, toiletries, cleaning supplies and monetary donations. A more detailed list of needs can be found in the narthex. The purpose of the collection is to brighten their days during this oppressive time.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	9:30 a.m.	No choir practice or Sunday school
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Congregational meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Group on Zoom
Monday 2/1	7:00 p.m.	Property meeting
Wednesday 2/3	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour Facebook Live
Thursday 2/4	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Sunday 2/7	9:30 a.m.	No choir practice or Sunday school
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group on Zoom



The flower chart for 2021 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. Flowers are \$50.00.

Rock of our Salvation Worship

February 14th and 28th
8:30 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

The Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be held on February 17th 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 as Lenten Disciplines.



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Minister
Lector
Acolytes
Camera Operator

Cheryl Mechling
Eva Shafer
Jerah Wranich
Nick Wranich

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.



The flowers on the Altar this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Esther Choncek on her 79th birthday anniversary by Butch Choncek and family.

GRACE
happens



at
St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA