

St. John's Lutheran Church

218 North Jefferson Street

Kittanning, Pennsylvania 16201

Phone (724) 548-2051

Home: 724-548-5512

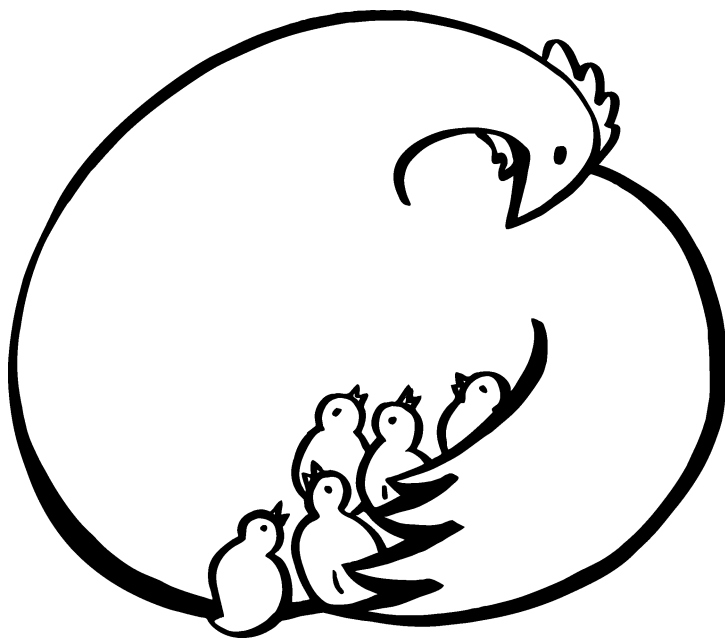
Church Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Church e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

The Rev. Carl A. Johnson, Pastor

March 16, 2025

11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE



St. John's Lutheran Church is part of the North American Lutheran Church in America. We welcome you and are glad you are participating in the Service of the Word this morning as we celebrate **The Second Sunday in Lent**. 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:

Bless us, O Lord, with a reverent sense of Your presence so that we may be still and adore You; in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE*"Heinlein"**Lutkin****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

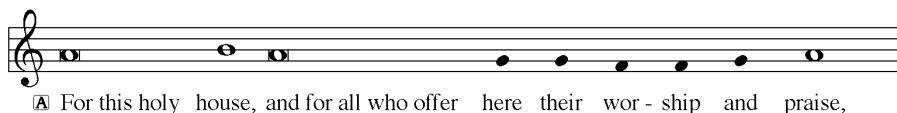
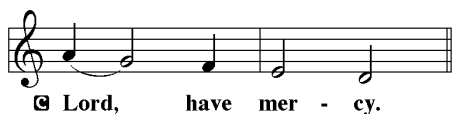
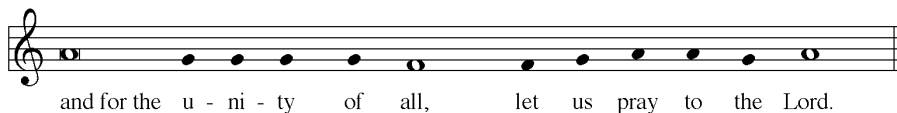
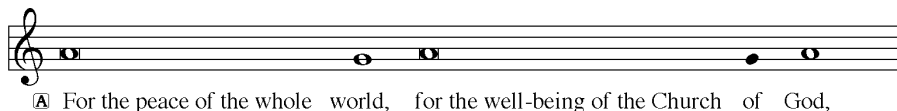
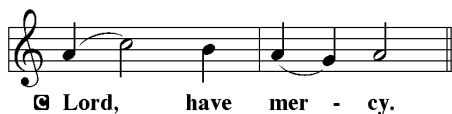
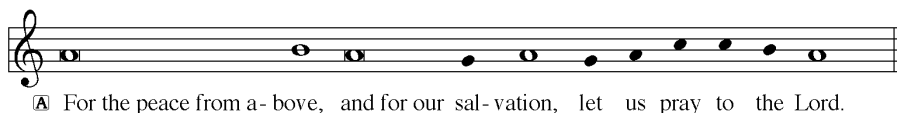
***ENTRANCE HYMN** *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

*LBW 104****GREETING**

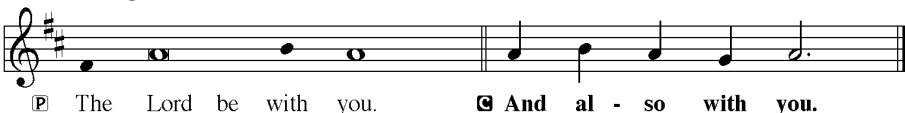
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*KYRIE



*PRAYER OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

Eternal God, it is Your glory always to have mercy. Bring back all who have erred and strayed from Your ways; lead them again to embrace in faith the truth of Your Word and to hold it fast; through Jesus Christ

Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON:

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

A The First Lesson is from the fifteenth chapter of Genesis.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:
“Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”

² But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” ⁴ And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

⁷ And he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” ⁸ But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

Psalms 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

**²When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries,
who stumbled and fell.**

³Though an army should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

**⁴and though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.**

⁵One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

**⁶to behold the fair beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.**

⁷For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.

**⁸Even now he lifts up my head
above my enemies round about me.**

⁹Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

**¹⁰Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.**

¹¹You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

**¹²Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

¹³You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

**¹⁴Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will sustain me.**

¹⁵Show me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

**¹⁶Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.**

¹⁷What if I had not believed that I should see
the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

**¹⁸Oh, tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the LORD.**

SECOND LESSON:

Philippians 3:17—4:1

A The Second Lesson is from the 3rd & 4th chapters of Philippians.

Chapter 3


¹⁷ Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Chapter 4

Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

A Here ends the reading.

*VERSE



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,




slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

*GOSPEL:

Luke 13:31–35

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




Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

LBW 93

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**

A For the Church, the world, and our poor sinful selves, let us pray to our Lord, who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

A brief silence

Lord Jesus, thank you for gathering your people beneath your wings. Your mercy covers our sins - and gives us courage to repent. Let us always remember your sacrifice, walk in the pathway you set before us, and stand firm in you, our Savior, Redeemer, and God.

A Lord, in your mercy,

C 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.

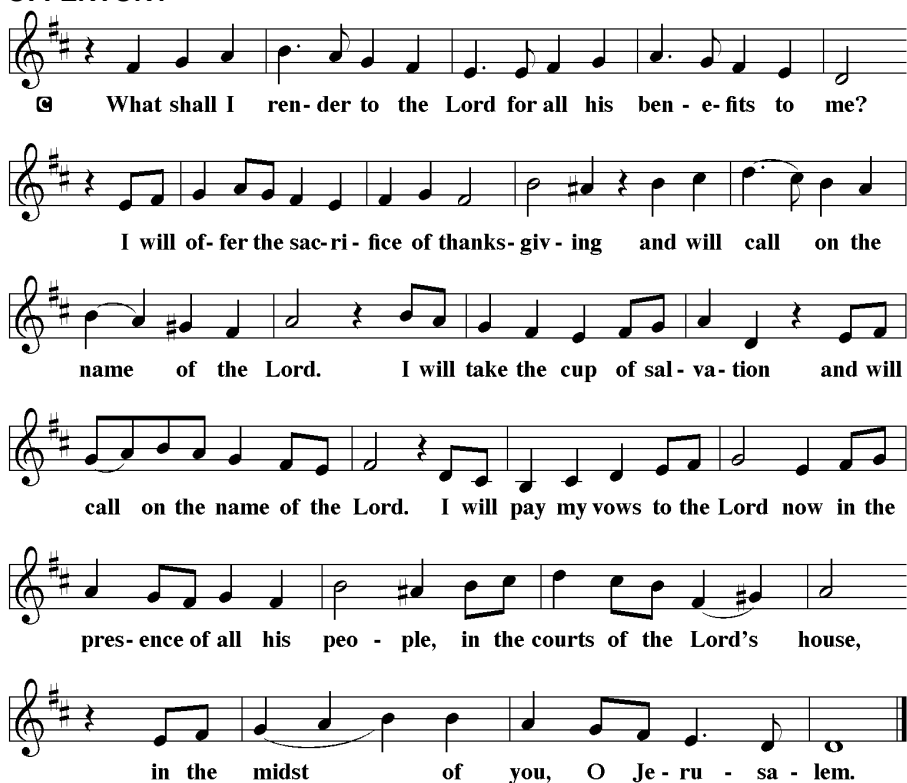
C And also with you.

ANTHEM

"Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love"

Pettker

*OFFERTORY



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me?

I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the

name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will

call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the

pres-ence of all his peo-ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,

in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Merciful Father,

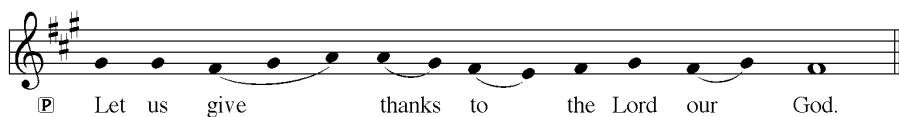
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

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



* 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. You bid Your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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



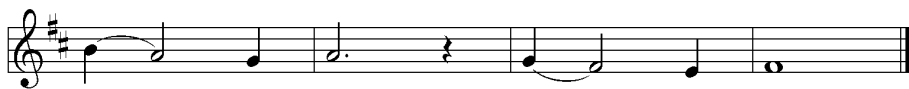
C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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:

LBW 203, 212, 507, WOV 709, 740

*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.*

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

C Amen

***God Loves you
so very much!***

*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.... Almighty God, You gave Your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to His; through the same 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

CLOSING HYMN

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

LBW 341

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Toccata on ‘Leoni’”

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.

**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.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| March 19 th | Apostles’ Creed |
| March 26 th | Lord’s Prayer |
| March 33 th | The Sacraments, Confession |
| March 40 th | Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy |



KMA Community Lenten Worship Services Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Mar 18	St. Paul’s Episcopal, 112 N Water St.	Ross Perrine
Mar 25	First United Methodist, 301 N Jefferson	Rev. Matthew Vatalare
Apr. 1	St. Luke’s U.C.C., 333 N McKean St.	Rev. Carl Johnson
Apr. 8	Salvation Army, 205 S Jefferson Wy	Rev. Edward Walters

**KMA Lenten Luncheons Schedule
Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m.**

Mar 19	First Methodist / Hope Center	Ross Perrine
Mar 26	St. Paul’s Episcopal, 112 N Water St.	Rev. Brandon Cooper
Apr. 2	First Baptist, 334 Arch St.	Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Apr. 9	St. Mary’s Catholic, 101 W High St	Father Eric Dinga

Passover Seder

Friday, April 11th at 6:00 p.m.

The Arnie Moss Family will host a Passover Seder at 6:00 pm on Friday April 11th at First Baptist, 334 Arch Street, Kittanning, PA, as part of our Lenten Learning. A free will donation will be taken the night of the Seder.

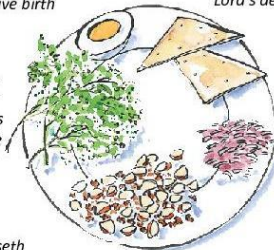
THERE ARE 125 SPOTS: FIRST COME – FIRST SERVED.

PASSOVER SEDER MEAL

EGG
The egg symbolizes the desire for freedom to which hard labor gave birth

PARSLEY
A symbol of springtime, parsley is placed in salt water, a sign of the tears that need to shed before joy can be experienced

MIXED FRUIT
Mixed fruit called Charoseth (which is made of apples and walnuts), help us to remember the mortar which the Israelites were force to make when they were slaves in Egypt



UNLEAVENED BREAD
The unleavened bread is the bread of haste, made with eagerness to experience the Lord's deliverance

GRAPE JUICE
Grape juice is drunk to honor the Lord, recognizing His benefits, and the goodness that makes everything possible



BITTER HERBS
Bitter herbs usually red shredded horseradish, represent the bitterness the Israelites endured before their escape from Egypt

SHANK BONE
The shank bone of the Passover Lamb brings to mind the deliverance which the Lord God wrought for us by the blood of this sacrifice. It is served on the plate reserved for Elijah.

Put this flier in the offering plate.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion
	Noon – 1:30 p.m.	Youth Group: Service Project
Tuesday 3/18	6:15 p.m.	SPARK Kids
	7:00 p.m.	KMA Lenten Worship Series @ St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Wednesday 3/19	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	12:00	KMA Luncheon
	5:30 p.m.	New Bells
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Bells
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
	7:30 p.m.	Senior Choir
Thursday 3/20	9:30 a.m.	Children's Hour
	1:00 p.m.	Newsletter mailing
	2:45 p.m.	Catechism
	7:00 p.m.	Catechism
Saturday 3/22	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Sunday 3/23	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Senior Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Worship: Communion

Mark Your Calendars

March 30	Men's Banquet
April 6	Women's Banquet
April 20	Easter
May 4	Spring Concert
May 18	Youth Sunday
June 1	Grad Sunday
June 8	Pentecost Sunday/Confirmation
June 22	Over 80 Banquet



Men's Bounty of the Earth Banquet 2025 SUNDAY -March 30, 2025

Help! We need donations of game to serve at our Bounty of the Earth Men's Banquet. We will also be serving beef for those with less adventurous palettes.



Easter Flowers

Flowers may be purchased to place in the church for Easter. Please fill out this form and place it in the offering plate or mail it to St. John's Lutheran Church, 218 N. Jefferson Street, Kittanning PA. Please include payment; if check, make out to *St. John's Lutheran Church* with the designation "*Easter flowers*" in the memo line. **Orders must be placed by March 26.** The cost of the flowers is as follows:

_____ Lilies	\$11.00
_____ Tulips	\$9.00
_____ Daffodils	\$9.00

In memory of

Given by:

In honor of _____

Given by: _____

_____ I will take my flower(s) after Easter Worship.

_____ Please take my flower(s) to a shut-in.

Paid (circle): Yes / Will pay later _____

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Assisting Ministers
Lectors
Comm Assistants
Acolytes
Welcome Teams
Camera Operator

Mollie Bouch
Rich Farah
Jonah Petruschke & Nancy Pierce
Cassidy Smith
The Baileys & Jazwinskis
Keith Livengood

STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry
Secretary
Sexton
Organist/Choir Director/Director of Music
Sr. Choir Accompanist

Julie Smith
Angela B. Clever
TBA
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.

*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



St. John's Lutheran Church
Kittanning, PA