

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 2, 2025

11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE



St. John's Lutheran Church is part of the North America Lutheran Church. We welcome you and are glad you are participating in the Service of the Word this morning as we celebrate the **Transfiguration of Our Lord**. 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, in the transfiguration of Your Son, You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud You foreshadowed our adoption as Your children. Make us with the King heirs of Your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRELUDE *“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”* arr. Westenkueler

***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** *“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”* LBW 87

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**



℣ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **℟** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



℟ Lord, have mer - cy.



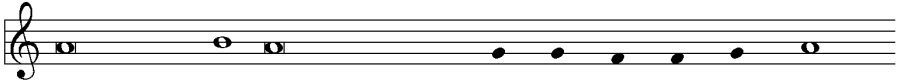
℣ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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**



℣ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.



☩ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**



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

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, on the mountain You showed Your glory in the transfiguration of Your Son. Give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold the King in all His glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON

EXODUS 34:29-35

A The First Lesson is from the 34th chapter of Exodus.

²⁹ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. ³² Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. ³³ And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

³⁴ Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, ³⁵ the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

A Here ends the reading.

PSALM:

PSALM 99



The LORD is king; let the | people tremble.*

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

**²The LORD, | great in Zion;*
is high a- | bove all peoples.**

³Let them confess God's name, which is | great and awesome;*
God is the | Holy One.

**⁴"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;*
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob."**

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- | fore God's footstool;*
God is the | Holy One.

**⁶Moses and Aaron among your priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon your | name, O LORD*
they called upon you, and you | answered them.**

⁷You spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud;*
they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.

**⁸O LORD our God, you answered | them indeed;*
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their | evil deeds.**

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship him upon God's | holy hill;*
for the LORD our God is the | Holy One.

SECOND LESSON

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12—4:2

A The second lesson is from the 3rd & 4th chapter of Second Corinthians.

Chapter 3

¹² Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³ not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Chapter 4

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

A Here ends the reading.

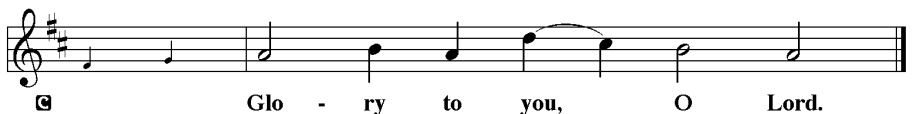
*VERSE



*GOSPEL

LUKE 9:28-43

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

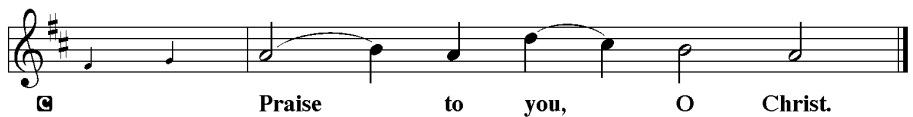


²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰ And behold, two men were talking with him,

Moses and Elijah, ³¹ who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” ³⁶ And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸ And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. ³⁹ And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. ⁴⁰ And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” ⁴¹ Jesus answered, “O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” ⁴² While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ⁴³ And all were astonished at the majesty of God.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN

“How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

LBW 89

SERMON

“Going Through the Change”

***NICENE CREED**

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

***THE PRAYERS**

Let us draw near to the Light of Christ, offering prayer and supplication on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Father, today we kneel in adoration before the majesty your Son revealed in his Transfiguration. But sometimes, our devotion grows cold. Sometimes our prayers and worship become half-hearted and routine. Sometimes we treat Jesus like a buddy we call on only if we need something from him. Kindle our hearts, minds, and spirits to worship and obey him with holy fear, deep joy, and fervent love. 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

*“Go Up to the Mountain of God”
Emily Bouch, Flute*

Helman

***OFFERTORY**

☐ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. 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. Blessed are You,

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave 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. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

***SANCTUS**



C 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 Blessed are You, LORD of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world, You gave Your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to You for the salvation You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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:

WOV 205, 198, 80, 90, 709

***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

***CANTICLE**



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



***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.



***CLOSING HYMN**

“Alleluia, Songs of Gladness”

WOV 654

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

arr. Wold

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23015. Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. CCLI Streaming License #11425662.

A Nursery/Cry Room is available on the second floor of the Education Building for those who may need it.

Don't forget to check out your Church Web Site:

www.stjohnskittanning.org

Here you will find: Bulletins, Newsletters, Morning Prayers, Upcoming events and program information, Youth Events including photos from the recent QUAKE trip, and more.



The flower chart for 2025 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 have increased to \$75.00 for the 2025 year.**



TODAY: Youth Fundraiser – FAT SUNDAY BREAKFAST – Casserole Bake Off! Stay to see who wins the sought after EGGO Trophy!



Men's Bounty of the Earth Banquet 2025
SUNDAY -March 23, 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.

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 |

Farewell to Alleluia

If today's recessional hymn somehow feels familiar, it is probably because of the tune, also used for "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven", LBW 549. It was composed by John Goss (1800-80), a distinguished English church musician also responsible for a number of choir anthems.

The words we sing today can be credited to another prominent Englishman, John Mason Neal (1818-66). His extensive knowledge of languages enabled him to make enduring translations of ancient hymn texts (LBW contains eighteen of these plus three of his own composition). "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" derives from an 11th century Latin hymn.

All of this suggests that abstaining from the Alleluia during Lent, even literally "burying" it, is nothing new. The tradition is thought to have begun in the Middle Ages, inspired by a 13th century Bishop who referred to the practice as similar to parting from a beloved friend. Our hymn, with its robust Alleluias, is the musical expression of just such a joyful farewell.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Today | 9:45 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Senior Choir |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship |
| | Noon | Fat Sunday Breakfast |
| Wednesday 3/5 | 9:30 a.m. | Children's Hour |
| | 5:30 p.m. | New Bells |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Senior Bells |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Wednesday Service |
| Thursday 3/6 | 9:30 a.m. | Children's Hour |
| | 2:45 p.m. | Catechism |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Catechism |
| Saturday 3/8 | 8:00 a.m. | Men's Breakfast |
| Sunday 3/9 | 9:45 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Senior Choir |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship: Communion |
| | 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. | Youth Lenten Bible Study |
| | 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Youth Group Bowling – King's Lanes |



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 12 th | Ten Commandments |
| March 19 th | Apostles' Creed |
| March 26 th | Lord's Prayer |
| March 33 th | The Sacraments, Confession |
| March 40 th | Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy |

Katie's Cupboard



Lent begins

Reverse Lent Calendar

*Instead of giving something UP during Lent,
please consider giving something away!*

| | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|--|--------|---------------------------|
| 5-Mar | Spaghetti O's | | 29-Mar | Body Wash |
| 6-Mar | Peanut Butter | | 30-Mar | Dried Milk |
| 7-Mar | Vienna Sausage | | 31-Mar | Syrup |
| 8-Mar | Boxed Potatoes | | 1-Apr | Pancake Mix |
| 9-Mar | Shelf-stable Juice | | 2-Apr | Mixed Vegetables |
| 10-Mar | Grape Jelly | | 3-Apr | Dinty Moore |
| 11-Mar | Tuna Helper | | 4-Apr | Tuna |
| 12-Mar | Macaroni/Cheese | | 5-Apr | Cornbread Mix |
| 13-Mar | Canned Fruit | | 6-Apr | Canned Beef Stew |
| 14-Mar | Canned Tomatoes | | 7-Apr | Shampoo |
| 15-Mar | Alfredo Sauce | | 8-Apr | <i>Your favorite food</i> |
| 16-Mar | Feminine Products | | 9-Apr | Kleenex |
| 17-Mar | Monetary Donation | | 10-Apr | Muffin Mix |
| 18-Mar | Canned Meat | | 11-Apr | Canned Fruit |
| 19-Mar | Baked Beans | | 12-Apr | Sugar |
| 20-Mar | Box of Crackers | | 13-Apr | Laundry Detergent |
| 21-Mar | Rice | | 14-Apr | Conditioner |
| 22-Mar | Flour | | 15-Apr | Cleaning Products |
| 23-Mar | Pasta | | 16-Apr | Toothbrush/Toothpaste |
| 24-Mar | Spaghetti Sauce | | 17-Apr | Hand Soap |
| 25-Mar | Cereal | | 18-Apr | Deodorant |
| 26-Mar | Canned Meat | | 19-Apr | Mens' DISPOSABLE razor |
| 27-Mar | Tomato Soup | | 20-Apr | SPAM |
| 28-Mar | Granola Bars | | | |

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Assisting Minister | Kay Thorell |
| Lector | Richard Thorell |
| Comm | Patty & Kyle Kirkpatrick, Amber Zurn, Lori Young |
| Acolyte | Stella Venesky, Anna Venesky, Emily Bouch, Lizzie Smoyer |
| Welcome Team | Donna Livengood, Kherington Hilty |
| Camera Operators | Bill Bouch |

STAFF MEMBERS

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Director of Children's & Youth Ministry | Julie Smith |
| Secretary | Angela B. Clever |
| Sexton | TBA |
| 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.

*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