

## WELCOME TO ASCENSION

### SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, OH GOD, AND BLESS YOUR INHERITANCE

"NOTHING EMBITTERS A PERSON MORE THAN SUFFERING. BUT WHEN IT IS CONSECRATED TO GOD, IT BECOMES HOLY"  
THOMAS MERTON

#### **SUN NOV 5 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Eph 2:4-10; Lk 8:41-56 Tone 6

**11:00** Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and + Nicholas Yackanich by Evelyn Yackanich

**After –Hospitality Pot Luck and Movie**, season 1 of The Chosen! Come watch and discuss in the Saint John the Baptist Hall

Mon Nov 6 **6:00pm** Advisory Board Meeting.

Tue Nov 7 **8:30am** For Our Parish HGB Betta Labanish by Fr. Alex

**5:15pm** **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Wed Nov 8 **ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS**

**8:30am** For Our Parish and HGB Katharina Margan by Fr. Alex

After - **MOLEBEN TO THE THEOTOKOS** -Special Intention

Thu Nov 9 **8:30am** For Our Parish and HGB Donald Merkley by Fr. Alex

12:00 – 4:00pm – Church **Office** Hour - and – Church **Cleaning** Hours

**6:00pm** - **ROSARY** - Prayer for Protection and Healing of the coronavirus and all serious illnesses by Men's Club

#### **SUN NOV 12 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Eph 2:14-22; Lk 10:25-37 Tone 7

**11:00** Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and HGB Michael P. Bross by Angela Bross

**After –Hospitality**

**1:00pm** - **Young Adults Bible Study** in the Saint John the Baptist Hall

### Happy NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st Eric Hunter; 3rd Daisy Olson; 16th Ann Kelly; 16th Delores Clinton;  
18th Natalie Collions; 20th Michael Yackanich; 22nd Morgan Kelly;

**Church Cleaning Hours:** A change in church cleaning day/hours has been established in order to accommodate schedules. All your time and energy are deeply appreciated and perhaps this schedule will enable you to join with the cleaning of Ascension church. Please help with this very important mission. Thank you. Father Alex.

**We have several faithful from Ascension who are in need of special prayer.**

Some of those who need special prayer are:

Frank and Chris Janke, Mary Grace Dorsey, Ben Pawers, Betta Labanish, Betty May Hertz, Emma Bernier, Lolly Vinson, June Mathews, William McGraw, Thomas McGraw, Darren and June Hall, Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea, Mary Ann Drumtra, Katharina and Steven Margan, Elaine Hampton, Linda Lechman, Dr. Jeffery Sotack Elisabeth Branden, Merly & Teresa Phillips Thank you. Fr. Alex

### **Bible Study: The Gospel of John**

It's not too late to join the Bible Study for 2023! Come and grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ by diving deep in the life of Christ according to the beloved disciple John (and eat some great food as well!).

**Please Join us on the (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) of the month to: Read, Discuss, and Meditate on the Daily Readings, after Divine Liturgy, and ( 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Evening Bible Study of St. John at 5:15pm. in the Social Hall. Fr. Alex**

**Visitors, family and friends:** Are you curious, do you have questions or inquirers about our church, icons, Divine Liturgy, or Byzantine Catholic traditions? Someone will be waiting to answer your questions after Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings in the vicinity of the icon corner at the front of the sanctuary. Don't be afraid to ask, there are no wrong questions.

**Attention all Parishioners, Visitors, and Guests:** please do your part to help us keep the Social Hall clean. After Sunday Hospitality and Pot Lucks please make sure the table area where you were sitting is wiped clean. **Also, please place your chair on top of the table.** Doing these things will be a big help and save much

The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is fully operational and located on the wall above the fire extinguisher in St. Phillips Hall. Eight parishioners were certified on the use of the AED on Oct 8, 2023 and other parishioners have been certified in the past. Periodic updates will follow. Dr. Michael Lechman

NEVER REPLY WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY. NEVER MAKE A PROMISE WHEN YOU'RE HAPPY. NEVER MAKE A DECISION WHEN YOU'RE SAD.

Candles for October

Sanctuary Lamp... + John Labanish by Betta Labanish  
Tetrapod... HGB Roman Slysh by Dr. Nadia Shockley  
Theotokos & Child... HGB Lisa Noonan by Christine Noonan  
John Baptist... HGB Mark Noonan by Christine Noonan  
St Nicholas... +Michael & Avanelle Bross by Angela Bross  
Protection Theotokos... In Love & Gratitude by Jim & Gia Hoolan  
Christ Teacher... + Michael Bross by Angela Bross

**SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOMED.**

Many unique items come into the shop weekly. We have a great selection of special-occasion gifts and religious items unique to the Williamsburg area, including a wide selection of spiritual books, music, icons and devotional and inspirational articles plus hand-made soaps, local honey.

**Attention all Parishioners, Visitors, and Guests:** please do your part to help us keep the Social Hall clean. After Sunday Hospitality and Pot Lucks please made sure the table area where you were sitting is wiped clean. **Also, please place your chair on top of the table.** Doing these things will be a big help and save much time in maintaining and keeping the floors clean. Thanks for your help and cooperation Fr. Alex

Prayer to Guardian Angel

ANGEL OF GOD, MY GUARDIAN DEAR, TO WHOM HIS LOVE COMMITS ME HERE: EVER THIS DAY  
BE AT MY SIDE, TO LIGHT AND GUARD, TO RULE AND GUIDE. AMEN

Young Adults will continue to meditate on the spiritual heritage of desert fathers and saints in Philokalia starting. November 12 at 1:00 pm.; and 26; December 3  
Last meeting for Fall semester: Sunday, December 3. Adithia Kusno

**God bless America!!!**



**FINANCIALS, October 29, 2023**

Monthly Dues -400.00; Offertory -2,207.00; Candles-13.00; Holyday-0.00  
Special Gifts-100.00 In - 2,720.00; Out 905.44

We will still collect donations for the **Ukrainian Humanitarian Cause**. You may place your generous gift in the basket with the Ukrainian Flag. You will find it at the Icon Screen. Thank you for your gift of hope! Fr. Alex

**“Lord, teach us to pray” Luke 11:1**

**Craft Show Success** - Many thanks to Ann Merkley and those who organized and ran our recent craft show. Once again the hall was transformed into a medieval fair, crowded with all manner of talented artisans and crafters, who demonstrated and shared their passion and talents with us. The bake sale, supplied by our wonderful parish volunteers, was a huge success; and the addition of the food court was very popular, providing our wonderful parish made pierogi and piroshki. To top it off, we had a good enthusiastic crowd throughout the day. Yes indeed, it was a great event to end a very busy month of parish activity. God bless all who worked so hard to make it a success.

Our Daily Bread - The Farther We Get from God, the Worse Things Get.

The story of “Our Book of Wisdom”

Having lived the better part of my life, I have come to learn certain things. Self-evident truth; wisdom gained through experience, and in some cases, wisdom gained by some divine intervention or sheer luck; what I have learned could fill a book. However these insights are gained it has been the same from age to age, from generation to generation. Each generation relearning what a previous generation discovered long ago. What we learn could fill a book. Each book a little different in experience, but each book coming to most of the same conclusions about life and how to live it. This becomes our “Book of Wisdom”.

Let’s see now.... What are some of the excerpts from my own book? There are different chapters, and categories you know. They start with the simple and humorous, and proceed to the more serious. Don’t touch a hot stove... Don’t walk out into traffic... At a certain age we should stop climbing trees.... It is a bad idea to get into a pen with a bull, and oh yes, tossing a stick of dynamite into a rattlesnake pit results in.... well, that’s another story.

The Book of Wisdom gets into more serious areas. That wisdom which gives us our moral direction and really defines who we are. Let’s see now... You can’t achieve anything in life unless you try... Learning from failure... Persistence in the face of adversity... Living within your means, and treating others with respect... Speaking the truth, and so on.

What’s the most important thing I’ve learned? That’s easy. The farther I get from God, the worse things get. This one will be the same for all of us. The farther we get from God, the more confused we become, and the more corruption comes into our life. For some it gets so bad, that except for some saving grace or outside intervention, they lose their way completely.

This then becomes a primary theme in our Book of Wisdom. One that seemingly has to be re-learned by each succeeding generation. For each generation in its own way drifts from God, or more accurately is drawn from God by worldly interests and pursuits. The more aligned we are with these temporal interests and pursuits, the less aligned we are with God.

*But Dad, I have a life to live, a career to pursue. I have kids to raise, and responsibilities to keep. I also want to enjoy life. Sometimes I am so busy and running so fast I don’t even know who I am. I need my free time to unwind and keep things in balance. I don’t want to lose my way. What does your “Book of Wisdom” say about that?*

Quite a lot actually, and it is summed up in staying close to God. Staying close to our Creator. For balance in life comes from God. Peace in life is a gift from God. Finding the right direction in life is a blessing from God. All good things come from God, and cannot be found in worldly pursuits.

Those who fail to grasp this concept will never find true happiness. They may become successful in some regard, they may acquire temporal wealth and look to be well off in every respect, but their story is not what it seems. Just like looking at a green pasture from a distance; you know, the one that looks lush and inviting, when you approach it, you find blemishes and things out of balance; when you cross over into it you find barren spots and all manner of garbage and imperfections. Just like this pasture, you will find that these poor people who seem to have everything on the outside, are lacking the one thing that would bring balance and happiness to their life. They play the “if only” game. “If only” I had this, then I would be happy. The more they seek temporal pleasures they think will make them happy, the more miserable they become. Those who fail to recognize and stay close to God in life will develop their pasture accordingly.

You are writing your own “Book of Wisdom” even now; so are your children. Find room in your “Book” for this bit of wisdom. Do not keep God far away from you. Have Him there with you to balance your life. Teach this wisdom to your children so that even if they should stray away for a time, this wisdom will be there for them to recognize and come back to. God will be waiting.

Love Dad

**News from the Carpathian Kitchen** - What an absolutely wonderful day we had during the craft show. Volunteers from the The Carpathian Kitchen came together to sell pierogi and piroshki, and we completely sold out, raising \$667.50 in the process. Yesterday also marked the first time we tried the concept of using Saint John the Baptist Hall as a kind of Food Court, with self service coffee at the first window, and food service at the second. That concept worked extremely well, and the informal ambiance in the hall was relaxing. Comments on the food were also great. If we had the product, we more than likely would have surpassed \$1000.00 in sales. Many thanks to our volunteer staff which made the work light and the time pleasurable.

**What's next for the Kitchen?** We have another pierogi production run scheduled for **10-11 November**. The 10th will be filling Friday, and the 11th will be pressing Saturday. Both days start at 9am. There will be a potluck at the conclusion of work on Saturday. We hope once again to fill our freezer with 50 dz. pierogis. We will be needing some help on both days of the production run. Most of all on that Saturday in which we have a need for 12 volunteers. Please check your calendars now and mark down either one or both of those days to help out.

## *Nothing but a Number*

*Miura reached the summit of Mount Everest at age 70. George Brunstad was also 70 when he swam the English Channel. Naval officer Grace Hopper became the first female rear admiral of the United States Navy when she was 79. Margaret Haggerty completed her quest to run a marathon on each of the seven continents when she was 84.*

*If stories like these teach us anything, it's that senior adults are capable of amazing things.*

*That was certainly true of Joshua. Even though he was probably nearing the century mark, God had a plan for him. Age didn't matter to God. Rather than telling Joshua to rest, retire or step aside for a younger replacement, God instructed him to get to work.*

*Perhaps we should take a cue from God in our attitude toward older adults. From an early age most of us were taught to respect our elders. However, too often we confuse politeness for respect. What's the difference? Politeness might include offering a hand to senior adults when they struggle with steps or making awkward small talk with aging relatives at family gatherings. Respect, however, would include realizing that with their years of challenges and experiences these adults are a rich, God-given resource.*

*In this age of politically correct labels, perhaps a better name for senior citizens is "ultra-experienced adults." God entrusted Joshua with an important duty a quarter century after Joshua reached retirement age because of his vast military experience and knowledge.*

*Think of the older adults you know. How does God want to use them in your life? What experiences of theirs might benefit you? What life lessons have they learned that might keep you from making a bad decision? And what might you be able to learn from hearing their stories and asking for their advice?*

### ***To Take Away***

- *How would you describe your attitude toward senior adults?*
- *Think of two or three seniors you know. What might getting to know them better add to your life?*
- *What steps can you take this week to build a mutually beneficial relationship with an older adult?*

## **Psalm 1**

### **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

Blessed the man who follows not  
the counsel of the wicked  
Nor walks in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the company of the insolent,  
But delights in the law of the LORD  
and meditates on his law day and night.

### **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

He is like a tree  
planted near running water,  
That yields its fruit in due season,  
and whose leaves never fade.  
Whatever he does, prospers.

### **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

Not so, the wicked, not so;  
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.  
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,  
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

### **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

## Psalm 95

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Messiah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

## Psalm 23

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
Beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

He guides me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk in the dark valley  
I fear no evil; for you are at my side  
With your rod and your staff  
that give me courage.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

You spread the table before me  
in the sight of my foes;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me  
all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
for years to come.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

**Psalm 16**

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you."  
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

You will show me the path to life,  
fullness of joys in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,  
for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;  
I will worship at your holy temple,  
and give thanks to your name.

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

Because of your kindness and your truth,  
you have made great above all things  
your name and your promise.  
When I called, you answered me;  
you built up strength within me.

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

Your right hand saves me.  
The LORD will complete what he has done for me;  
your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

**Psalm 138**

### Psalm 113

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

Praise, you servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD  
both now and forever.

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

From the rising to the setting of the sun  
is the name of the LORD to be praised.  
High above all nations is the LORD;  
above the heavens is his glory.

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high  
and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

He raises up the lowly from the dust;  
from the dunghill he lifts up the poor  
To seat them with princes,  
with the princes of his own people.

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

### Psalm 104

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!  
How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
the earth is full of your creatures.

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD be glad in his works!  
Pleasing to him be my theme;  
I will be glad in the LORD.

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

If you take away their breath, they perish  
and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth.

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

### **Psalm 11**

The LORD is in his holy temple;  
the LORD's throne is in heaven.  
His eyes behold,  
his searching glance is on mankind.

**The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**

The LORD searches the just and the wicked;  
the lover of violence he hates.  
For the LORD is just, he loves just deeds;  
the upright shall see his face.

**The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**

### **Psalm 103**

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul;  
and all my being, bless his holy name.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

The LORD has established his throne in heaven,  
and his kingdom rules over all.  
Bless the LORD, all you his angels,  
you mighty in strength, who do his bidding.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**



## Psalm 15

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

He who walks blamelessly and does justice;  
who thinks the truth in his heart  
and slanders not with his tongue.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Who harms not his fellow man,  
nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor;  
By whom the reprobate is despised,  
while he honors those who fear the LORD.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Who lends not his money at usury  
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things  
shall never be disturbed.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

## Exodus 15

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
He is my God, I praise him;  
the God of my father, I extol him.

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The LORD is a warrior,  
LORD is his name!  
Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea;  
the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The flood waters covered them,  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,  
your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

“See, you lowly ones, and be glad;  
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!  
For the LORD hears the poor,  
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.”

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

### **Psalm 69**

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

I am sunk in the abysmal swamp  
where there is no foothold;  
I have reached the watery depths;  
the flood overwhelms me.

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

But I pray to you, O LORD,  
for the time of your favor, O God!  
In your great kindness answer me  
with your constant help.

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

But I am afflicted and in pain;  
let your saving help, O God, protect me;  
I will praise the name of God in song,  
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

### **Psalm 106**

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

Our fathers made a calf in Horeb  
and adored a molten image;  
They exchanged their glory  
for the image of a grass-eating bullock.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

They forgot the God who had saved them,  
who had done great deeds in Egypt,  
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,  
terrible things at the Red Sea.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

Then he spoke of exterminating them,  
but Moses, his chosen one,

Withstood him in the breach  
to turn back his destructive wrath.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

Extol the LORD, our God,  
and worship at his holy mountain;  
for holy is the LORD, our God.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

#### **Psalm 99**

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

Extol the LORD, our God,  
and worship at his footstool;  
holy is he!

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
and Samuel, among those who called upon his name;  
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

From the pillar of cloud he spoke to them;  
they heard his decrees and the law he gave them.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

#### **Psalm 95**

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tested me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

### **Psalm 106**

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

We have sinned, we and our fathers;  
we have committed crimes; we have done wrong.  
Our fathers in Egypt  
considered not your wonders.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

But soon they forgot his works;  
they waited not for his counsel.  
They gave way to craving in the desert  
and tempted God in the wilderness.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

They forgot the God who had saved them,  
who had done great deeds in Egypt,  
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,  
terrible things at the Red Sea.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

Then he spoke of exterminating them,  
but Moses, his chosen one,  
Withstood him in the breach  
to turn back his destructive wrath.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

### **Psalm 97**

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many islands be glad.  
Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,  
before the LORD of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his justice,  
and all peoples see his glory.

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

Because you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth,  
exalted far above all gods.

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven.

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,  
and salvation, along the way of his steps.

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

### **Psalm 85**

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD—for he proclaims peace  
To his people, and to his faithful ones,  
and to those who put in him their hope.

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**