

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 June 28 5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rom 10:1-10 Mt 8:28-9: 3 Tone 4

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and + Dr. John S. Ehreth by Dr. Mary Jean Sotack
After –Hospitality- **Security Meeting**

Mon June 29 PETER and PAUL PRIME APOSTLES

8:30 Liturgy For Our Parish

Tue June 30 8:30 Liturgy For HGB Helen M. Luecke by Fr. Alex

5:00pm – 6:30pm – **BIBLE study**

Wed July 1 8:30 Liturgy For + Jaime and Aurora O Daquilanea by Fr. Alex

Thu July 2 8:30 Liturgy For HGB our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need: by Fr. Alex

6:00pm – ROSARY - Prayer For Peace in Our Country & for Protection and Healing of all illnesses by Men's Club

Sat July 4 1:00pm Church Cleaning Hours

Sun July 5 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rom 12:6-14 Mt 9:1-8 Tone 5

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and HGB Betty May Hertz by Mary Ann Drumtra
After –Hospitality – **Pot Luck**

Advisory Bord: Fr. Alex (Pastor)-Security; Don Merkley & Michelle Massie – Trustee, Property; David Efimizt – Office Manager; Patricia Duttry-Book Keeper; Linda Lechman -parish secretary; Dr. Micheal Lechman-Investment & Adult Bible Study; Betty May Hertz-outreach; Sb. Dicon Adithia Kusno-Facebook-Young Adult Education; Don Merkley, Website; Lee Alexander-Men's Club President; Lisa Edwards-Children's Christian Formation Director-Liturgical Committee; Ann Merkley-Bookstore Manager-Security.

Security - We welcome all visitors, and they have lots of questions. If the questions however pertain to "what our security procedures are?", or "what doors are kept locked?", or "do we live stream our services?", please make it known to Fr. Alex, **David Efimizt – Office Manager** or to a **security team member**.

Bible Study

The next BIBLE study in January to continue on the Prophets, cost \$25 to \$30 for book guide and video lectures. For questions, please text 757-880-5093.

Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

Ascension prayer list - Kindly remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need:

Frank Janke; Mary Grace Dorsey; Betty May Hertz; Emma Bernier; Lolly Vinson; Myron Kotyk; Darren and June Ann Hall; Lary & Mary Ann Drumtra & their Family; Elaine Hampton; Dr. Micheal & Linda Lechman; Elisabeth Branden; Merly & Teresa Phillips; Mary Sullivan; Michael & Michaela Bross; Peter & Lisa Margan; Wayne Smith & his Family: Austin and his Family; Ron Gracik & Family; Mary Soupp; Yvette Louviere If you would like to add your name or name of a loved one to this list, please contact Fr. Alex. Thank you.

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.

Young Adults, Children, Adult Bible Study Committee: Subdeacon Adithia Kusno, Dr. Michael Lechman, Lisa Edwards. Special Event/Retreat Speakers Committee: David Efimizt, Don Merkley, Dr. Mary Jean Sotack

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 and other parishioners have been certified in the past. Periodic updates will follow. Dr. Michael Lechman.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Church 757-220-8098 Rectory 757-585-2787

www.ascensionva.org Like us on Facebook

V. Rev. Alex Shuter

Rev.Alex.Shuter@gmail.com



INFORMATION REGARDING THE SACRAMENTS AND SACRAMENTALS

Father Alex is available for the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation before Diving Liturgy on Sunday (10:30 am) or half hour before weekly Liturgy (8:00 am) or by appointment.

MIROVANJA is a sacramental blessing with holy oil, which is applied to the forehead in the sign of the cross by the priest while proclaiming the appropriate greeting of the season. After kissing the hand cross, take a piece of the blessed bread. You may offer a donation.

The following are seven ways I prayed for my daughter before she returned to God and to me. There are also prayers to personalize for your specific child.

I personally know the heartache and heartbreak of a wandering child, sometimes referred to as a prodigal from the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32. A wandering or prodigal child at any age is a child who is breaking the heart of God and his or her parents. Maybe they've wandered away from their faith, or maybe they haven't ever made a commitment to follow Jesus. They're being influenced by the worldly culture and may reject the love and concern of parents or grandparents.

When endless talking, restrictions, and discipline fail, we feel desperate, like there's nothing we can do to save our child from their destructive choices. We know there are dire consequences if they continue down their deceptive path, and the thought of losing them forever haunts us day and night.

We feel. . .Helpless. Discouraged. Devastated. Sad. Hopeless.

But God reminds us in James 5:19-20 NLT, "My dear brothers and sisters, if someone among you wanders away from the truth and is brought back, you can be sure that whoever brings the sinner back from wandering will save that person from death and bring about the forgiveness of many sins."

So with encouragement from the Lord's Word, we diligently pray for our wandering child. We know only God can save our child. Praying and interceding are the most powerful things we can do. Often, we think of prayer as a last resort after we've exhausted our own attempts at fixing a situation. I'm suggesting that prayer take precedence over everything else you're trying.

The following are seven ways I prayed for my daughter before she returned to God and to me. There are also prayers to personalize for your specific child.

SLIDE 1 OF 7

[Prayer](#) is simply a conversation with God where you can pour out your concerns and heartbreak to Him. He's always ready to listen 24/7. What prompted me to pray daily for my prodigal for six years was asking myself: How badly did I want my daughter to change her ways? A daily, peaceful, quiet time with God helps you to rest in His presence and remember that God wants your child back even more than you do. Here's a [prayer](#) asking God to prompt you to pray for your wandering child daily, even when you don't see a change in their behavior. Keep praying! ([1 Thess. 5:17](#)) *Pray: Lord, please help me to be disciplined in praying daily for my wandering child and not to lose hope. My [prayer](#) is to find a regular time and place to sit quietly with You and pour out my heart while also allowing time to listen to Your still small voice. Show me Your ways, Lord, and how You would have me respond to this unwanted situation. Let Your hand of mercy and grace fall on my child. Calm my heart and racing mind, and let me look forward to our time together in prayer and not consider it a rote routine or a burden. I love You, Lord. Amen*

"But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." - [Matthew 6:6-8](#)

God bless America!!!

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

Help support our church

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To make a donation

June 14-21, 2026

Monthly Dues -1,110.00.00; Offertory -1,095.25.; Candles -89.00; Holyday-5.00; Special Gifts 1,000.00; In -3,599.25; Out- 10,878.59

Happy JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1st Melissa Karlson; 9th Ann Merkle; 11th Patty Duttry; 12th Anna & Sofia Carden; 14th Lisa Montgomery; 25th Mary Olson; 27th Keith Shockley; 28th Dr. Michael Lechman

Candles for June

Sanctuary Lamp... For Fr. John Ridgell by Peter & Lisa Margan
Tetrapod... For + Drago & Katarina Margan by Peter Margan
Theotokos & Child... For HGB Norma Duttry by Patty Duttry
John Baptist... For Debra Gilray by Peter & Lisa Margan
St Nicholas... For Margan Family by Peter Margan
Protection Theotokos... For + Steven Margan by Peter & Lisa Margan
Christ Teacher... For HGB Doyle Duttry by Patty Duttry

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 and local honey. Special orders welcomed.

To Be a Saint – What is Love?

The English language is wonderfully alive, with new words added each year. In my travels it seems that no matter what country I am in, everyone knows a little English. English today is the official language for communicating at sea. It is also the international mandated language for civil aviation. It can be likened in some respects to the universal use of Latin during the age of “Pax Romana” and for several centuries thereafter.

With English though we have become mentally lazy in our understanding of words. For instance, love is a word we like to use. A catchy phrase was popularized a few years back that said “love is love”. It became the motto of the LGBTQ+ crowd. This “one size fits all” interpretation of love is untrustworthy though. As we will see, love is far more complex.

Before Latin, Greek was the go-to language in the civilized world. The Greeks have at least six different meanings for the word love. We’ll focus on three of them below, and then turn our attention to the Gospel of John to find the true meaning of love.

The first Greek word for love we’ll discuss is “Eros”. Eros forms the root word for “erotic”. In Greek, it refers to romantic love, encompassing physical attraction and sexual desire. In the 20th century, the word love increasingly came to be associated solely with this erotic love. This is partly due to Sigmund Freud’s work in shaping modern psychology, along with media and marketing exploitation, which seeks to capitalize on this strong carnal desire of man. Modern society attempts to sexualize all aspects of love to the exclusion of the other types.

The next Greek word we’ll discuss is “Philia” love. The Greek Philia love describes brotherly love, friendship or fondness. It is with us today in the form of strong friendships we develop in life. We also find it in various place names such as Philadelphia, “The city of brotherly love”, and in terms describing fondness such as “Bibliophile”, a fondness for books.

The final Greek word is “Agape” love which is spiritual or unconditional love. This is the highest form of love. The kind of love God has for man, and wants us to develop through grace. It is a term rarely used today outside of religious context. I suppose you could say it has been hijacked along with Philia love and the other Greek terms for love in favor of erotic love.

Quickly to the Gospel of John... John wrote his gospel in Greek, so with our understanding of the Greek variations on the word love, let’s see what it reveals. In John 13:34-35, Jesus tells His disciples: “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another...”. In Greek, Jesus uses a form of the word “Agape”. Jesus wants the type of love that is spiritual and unconditional. The type of love that led Him to sacrifice Himself on the cross. Again, in John 15:13, “Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” Again, John uses the word “Agape” for love.

Now let’s look at something really interesting. Later in John 21:15-17, Jesus, while speaking to Peter before his Ascension, asked three times; Do you love Me? In his gospel John uses the word that Jesus spoke as “Agape”. In reply, Peter professes his love of Christ, only John says he used the word in the Greek context of “Philia”. This goes on in verse 16 as a second time Christ asks to you love Me (Agape). Peter’s reply is the same, yes, I love You (Philia). For a third time Christ asks Peter do you love Me, but this time Jesus apparently lowers the bar, as John records the Greek word Christ used as Philia, to which Peter replied using the same term. Was it an accurate translation? As the Gospel relates, John (the beloved disciple) was following closely behind as they spoke. In my mind, the words were accurate.

Why was the question asked three times? The consensus is that it reflects Peter’s three denials of Christ during the passion. Debate still goes on about the use of different terms for love in this conversation. For me, the answer is in verse 18, as Christ relates the type of death Peter would face for love of his Lord. Christ accepted Peter’s “Philia” love in John chapter 21, knowing it would grow into “Agape” love before Peter’s crucifixion.

So too, if we allow, Christ will take our love, as imperfect as it is, and turn it into something more. A love that reflects God’s own love.

Yours in Christ Brother Joseph

Men's Club - On the 5 July Potluck the guys will be featuring hamburgers and hotdogs to celebrate the 4th of July. Everyone is encourage to bring an appropriate side dish. The next club meeting will be Tuesday, July 21st, starting at 6pm.

Carpathian Kitchen - We continue to sell pierogi and piroshky after liturgy on Sunday. All proceeds go to the Circle of Hope charitable outreach.

Church Cleaning. We have a very dedicated team at Ascension who cleans God's house weekly generally on Saturdays. However, sometimes schedules run thin and so we are in need of a few more helping hands. Please find it in your heart to help us with this very important ministry for only one hour a week. Thanks to all of you for your hard work and time. Betty Mae Hertz

Parish Activities: All activities should be recorded on the main calendar. Please write in the activity you are responsible for and let Fr. Alex know the details so he can include it in the bulletin.

Liturgy and Candle Requests: Often we want to remember someone and offer special prayers for the departure of a loved one, special occasion, birthday, anniversary, etc. with celebration of a Divine Liturgy or lighting of a candle in front of an icon. To request a liturgy or candle, please complete the form in the appropriate envelope which you will find in the rack on the wall as you enter Ascension church and place it in the Sunday offering basket. Thank you. Fr. Alex.

Thank You for your generosity and giving spirit!

This year, because your support to the Bishop's 2025 Stewardship Campaign, we were able to raise \$7,800. We exceeded our goal of \$6,800 by \$1,000! Your generous donations to the campaign will assist Bishop Kurt in providing much needed resources to the Eparchy, to Parishes not as fortunate as us at Ascension, and the Ukraine Relief Fund.

Our Parish will receive a check from the Bishop's Office in the amount of \$3,120. The 40% reinvestment to our Parish for meeting and exceeding our goal. I cannot help but think of the founding members of our Parish and how proud they must be of us for continuing the legacy they began.

Thank you again. Ascension Of Our Lord Advisory Board

Enjoy Hospitality after Sunday Liturgy? Please give prayerful consideration to joining Committee. Interested, SEE Chris Noonan after liturgy in the Parish Hall.

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.

Psalm 138

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 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.

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.

“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 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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.