

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. Mar 29 **PALM SUNDAY**

Phil 4:4-9; Jn 12:1-18 Festal Tone

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parishioners by Fr. Alex

After – Hospitality

HOLY Tue Mar 31 **6:00pm** Confession

7:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with Holy Anointing

HOLY Wed Apr 1 **6:00pm** - ROSARY - Prayer For Peace in Our Country & for Protection and Healing of all serious illnesses by Men's Club

HOLY Thu Apr 2 **7:00pm** Divine Liturgy with Vespers For Our Parishioners

GOOD Fri Apr 3 **8:00pm** Burial Vespers

HOLY Sat Apr 4 9:00am – 2:00pm Church Open For Adoration / Private Devotion

SUN APR 5 **RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD - PASCHA**

Acts 1:1-8 Jn 1:1-17 Festal Tone

10:00 Resurrection Matins and Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners followed by blessing of Easter Baskets

DON'T BE AFRAID! I AM THE FIRST AND LAST. I AM THE LIVING ONE. I DIED, BUT LOOK—I AM ALIVE FOREVER AND EVER! - REVELATION 1:17B-18A

Through His death and resurrection, Jesus Christ has given us the gift of reconciliation with God. May we never take this gift for granted and strive to live in a way that honors His sacrifice. Easter is a time of joy and celebration, as we remember the victory that Jesus Christ has won for us. May this joy fill your heart and inspire you to live with purpose and passion. Happy Easter!

Happy March Birthdays

2nd Myron Kotyk; 25th Ron Ruskowski; 30th Debbie Wargo

+

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; Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea; 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: 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 Efimetz, Don Merkley, Dr. Mary Jean Sotack

Bible Study

The next evening Bible study will be held on Tuesday April 14 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. The session will cover Chapters 11 thru 15:21 in Exodus - Session Five in the workbook - "Passover and Liberation". For questions, please text 757-880-5093.
Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

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.

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.

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

10 Soul-Centered Things to Give Up for Lent (That Aren't Food)

What if fasting this Lent actually transformed your habits, not just your diet? These 10 soul-deep shifts can clear out what is draining you and make space for freedom, peace, and a closer walk with God.

7. Give up comparison.

SLIDE 7 OF 10

Comparison pulls our attention away from God's work in our own lives and puts it on what others appear to have or achieve. In this digital age, we can often compare ourselves to what other people are posting on social media about their lives, and feel discouraged about our own lives as a result. But [Galatians 6:4-5](#) reminds us that comparison is neither necessary nor helpful: "Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, for each one should carry their own load." God's calling is personal, and faithfulness looks different in every person's life.

We can give up comparison during [Lent](#) by limiting social media, changing how we consume content, or [practicing gratitude](#) for our own lives every day. When we catch ourselves starting to compare our lives with someone else's life, we can thank God for one specific gift he has given us, and that will reorient our focus. As we fast from comparison, we can discover greater freedom to celebrate others without [resentment](#), and to embrace our own journeys with contentment.

8. Give up complaining.

SLIDE 8 OF 10

Complaining can seem like harmless honesty, but when it becomes a habit, it damages our perspective and relationships. The Bible often warns against grumbling, especially because it reflects a lack of trust in God's provision. [Philippians 2:14](#) urges us to: "Do everything without grumbling or arguing." We can do so when we choose to express gratitude even in difficult situations.

During [Lent](#), we can pay attention to how often complaints come up in our thoughts and conversations. When they do, we can name something we're thankful for instead. Over time, we'll train ourselves to notice God's many blessings instead of focusing only on our frustrations. The [attitude of gratitude](#) we can develop when we do so will inspire us every day, during [Lent](#) and beyond.

9. Give up entertainment as escape.

SLIDE 9 OF 10

Entertainment can refresh us, but it can also become a way for us to avoid discomfort, boredom, or emotional pain. When every quiet moment is filled with entertainment, we miss valuable opportunities to communicate with God. [Ecclesiastes 3:1](#) reminds us that there is "a time for everything."

[Lent](#) can be a great time to reduce entertainment and take a look at what lies beneath the surface of our lives. Instead of automatically turning to a screen, we can try sitting quietly, journaling, or [praying and meditating](#). Our goal is to invite God into the uncomfortable places in our lives, rather than escaping them. This fast creates space for us to experience the healing we need from God.

10. Give up neglecting prayer.

SLIDE 10 OF 10

[Lent](#) gives us a valuable opportunity to build stronger [prayer](#) lives. The Bible urges us in [1 Thessalonians 5:17](#) to "pray continually," and we can do so by [praying about everything](#) that enters our minds each day, and by [praying with freedom](#) in whichever ways work best for us to do so. We can carry a continuous mindset of prayer and just check in with God regularly and naturally – just like updating a close friend. We don't need to worry about saying lengthy or eloquent prayers. All we need to do is communicate with God on a regular basis, however we can. The more we stop neglecting prayer and just go ahead and pray however we can day by day, the more aware we can become of God's presence with us.

In conclusion, [Lent](#) is a wonderful opportunity to grow spiritually by opening ourselves up to God's powerful transforming work. When we give up an unhealthy habit for Lent, we create space in our lives for God to help us replace it with a new, healthy habit that can bless us long after Lent ends. Easter reminds us that resurrection follows surrender. As we walk through the 40 days of Lent, God will meet us in the fasting [process of letting go](#), and lead us into a future full of hope!

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



March 22, 2026

Monthly Dues –0.00; Offertory – 304.00; Candles -11.00; Flowers-Easter-0.00;
In –404.10; Out- 150.63

Candles for February

Sanctuary Lamp... For Fr. John Ridgell by Peter & Lisa Margan
Tetrapod... For + Drago & Katarina Margan by Peter Margan
Theotokos & Child... For Merrill & Helen Le Blanc & Peter by Lisa Margan
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 Le Blanc & Culjak Familys by Lisa Margan

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.

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.

To Be a Saint – The Meditation of the Watches –

Walking With Our Lord To Calvary - Part One

Catholics travel the path of Calvary through the Lenten cycle, or reciting the Stations of the Cross, or the mysteries of the Rosary, and so on. But there is another way. A meditation which leads us through the Passion of Christ as well as provides underlying scriptural context. It is a meditation done by the watches, the old term which marked the time of the day in biblical times. I recommend you have your bible with you, as you will have need of it to refer to various passages. No, it is not easy, but there is a discipline in this that will reward those who take the time to page through the scripture cited. Walk with me now the Passion of Jesus Christ.

First Watch (6PM-9PM). It is the time immediately following sunset. In Lamentations 2:19, the prophet Jeremiah calls for prayer during the night watches: "Arise, cry out in the night, at the beginning of the watches; pour out your heart like water before the presence of the Lord."

At this time Jesus celebrates the Jewish Passover with the twelve Apostles in the upper room. It is during this watch He instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, and washed the feet of the Apostles as a lesson in humility and service. It was during this watch Jesus made His announcement of Judas' betrayal, and Peter's denials. It is when we see Jesus give a new commandment, "Love one another as I have loved you." Jn. 13:34-35. It was during the first watch when Jesus sung the Hallel Hymn and went out to the Garden of Gethsemane; where he told them, "I will strike the Shepherd and the sheep will be scattered." Zec. 13:7, Mt. 26:31, Mk.14:27

Second Watch (9PM-Midnight) During this watch, believers pray against spiritual attacks and seek protection for themselves and their families. The time is often associated with overcoming challenges, as demonstrated in the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt, Ex. 12:29-31.

It was during this watch that Jesus faced his true test; His agony, the greatest ever known. "Father if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me.", Mt.26:39. An agony so great His sweat became drops of blood. Lk. 22:44. The first letting of our Saviour's Blood during that awful passion. "Watch and pray lest you fall into temptation, Mt.26:41; those were His words to the disciples, but they sleep, unaware of what was to come.

Third Watch (Midnight – 3AM). Often called the "witching hour," this watch is critical for engaging in spiritual warfare. It's a time to break strongholds and intercede for others. Paul and Silas exemplified the power of prayer and worship during this time in Acts 16:25-26.

Around Midnight Judas arrives with the soldiers and betrays our Lord with a kiss. Jesus is seized; but Peter fights back wounding Malthus, Mt. 26:51-55, Lk. 22:49-51, Jn. 18:10-15. Jesus stops the violence, and heals the wound of Malthus. The most powerful Son of God showing us that He accepts His fate and will have no blood spilt other than His own. The perfect sacrifice. The Master is handed over to the very people who had waited for so long for a Messiah, but they did not recognize Him so, "He was despised and rejected by men", Isa. 53:3. Confused, unable to understand why the Shepherd has been struck down so, the sheep are scattered. Jesus is taken before Annas, the former High Priest of the Sanhedrin. Although deposed by the incoming Roman administration, Annas still wielded symbolic power within the Jewish community, for a High Priest remained so until death, Num. 35:25. It was here that charges were crafted and sent to Caiaphas, the son-in-law of Annas.

Fourth Watch (3AM-6AM) This is the final night watch. Often associated with the time of the rooster's

crowling. It is during this watch that significant biblical events occurred. Recall Jesus walking on the water, Mt. 14:25. Jesus often prayed during this time, seeking quiet communion with the Father, Mk. 1:35.

Thus begins a show trial before Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin. False witnesses accuse Him. He is spat upon and beaten. It is now the time when Peter denies his Lord three times, and from outside the Temple walls a cock crows. "And Jesus turned and looked at Peter."; which causes Peter to weep bitterly, Lk.22-54-62. Finally Jesus gives Caiaphas what he was looking for. "But I say to you: You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming on the Clouds of heaven", Mt, 26:64, Lk. 22-69, see also Dan. 7:13. Blasphemy! Caiaphas tore his robe in feigned indignation. He has what he needs to put Jesus to death, but there is a problem. Under the Roman administration, the Sanhedrin cannot execute Jesus. Only the Roman Governor had the power of capital punishment which in this case was crucifixion, Jn. 18:31-32; thus fulfilling Jesus own prophecy of how He was to die. So, Jesus is taken to Pontius Pilot. Thus pass the first four watches of our Lord's ordeal. We shall continue our journey in the next letter.

Yours in Christ

Brother Joseph

Men's Club - The next club meeting will be 19 May. Thanks to all who volunteer to work around the church during the week. From maintenance to mowing grass, it's all important.

Carpathian Kitchen - Many thanks to those who helped baked kolache, make piroshki, and helped with the palms and pussy willows yesterday! The kolache are for sale after Liturgy, along with a few dozen potato and cheese pirogi, and the piroshki will be available next week.

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

Ascension Young Adults Fellowship on Sunday after Potluck 1pm to 3pm: April 12 Sunday of Saint Thomas, and May 3 Sunday of Saint Photini of Samaria. In Christ, Adithia Kusno

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

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.