

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 Oct 4 26 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Cor 11:31-12:9; Mk 8:5-15 Tone 2

10:00 am Eastern Christian Formation each Sunday before the Divine Liturgy

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and Julianna by Fr. Alex

After –Hospitality-Pot Luck

Mon Oct 5 26 5:00 pm Liturgy For + Helen Best by Lisa Edward

Tue Oct 6 26 8:30 Liturgy For HGB Joe & Elaine Hampton by Fr. Alex

Wed Oct 7 26 8:30 Liturgy For “Ascension prayer list” by Fr. Alex

Thu Oct 8 26 8:30 Liturgy For + Mark A. Cifrulak by Lisa Edward

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

Sat Oct 10 26 12:30pm Church Cleaning Hours

Sun Oct 11 26 SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 7TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

Gal 1:11:19; Lk 7:11-16 Tone 3

10:00am Eastern Christian Formation each Sunday before the Divine Liturgy

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and + Katharina and Drago Margan by Peter & Lisa

Margan

After –Hospitality

Save the Date!

Saturday November 14, 2026 Parish Retreat to prepare for the Nativity of Our Lord.

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; Joe & 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; Steve Guethe; Leila Asmar; John & Terri Adzima; If you would like to add your name or name of a loved one to this list, please contact Fr. Alex. Thank you.

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.

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: Deacon Adithia Kusno, Dr. Michael Lechman, Special Event/Retreat Speakers Committee: David Efimetz, Don Merkley, Dr. Mary Jean Sotack

CPR and Defibrillator Training

Our parish is offering CPR and defibrillator training for parishioners interested in learning how to perform CPR and operate an automated external defibrillator (AED). We have 10 spots available, which will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Parishioners must: ☐ Be 18 years of age or older; ☐ Be in good health

☐ Be willing to make a one-year commitment to be available to assist in an emergency situation at the church and parish hall

The parish will cover the full cost of the training.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Dave Efimetz.

Candles for August

Sanctuary Lamp...For OUR PARISH; Tetrapod... For OUR PARISH

Theotokos & Child... For OUR PARISH; John Baptist... For OUR PARISH

St Nicholas... For OUR PARISH; Protection Theotokos... For OUR PARISH

Christ Teacher... For OUR PARISH

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 PALACE LANE, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185-2942

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 Bible’s Best Wisdom for Setting Goals That Actually Glorify God

A national insurance company plans its entire advertising message around not becoming like our parents, using the phrase "don't be like your parents," but what's so wrong with it?

Although it's written and filmed to be humorous, the underlying message is troubling, featuring "Dr. Rick," a paid actor playing the role of a "Parenta-Life Coach," who instructs young homeowners on how to resist and avoid turning into their parents, terming the tendency to do so as "Parentamorphosis."

Even though presented in a humorous manner, urging "Get Dr. Rick's latest tips for your journey to un-becoming your parents," it's a concerning idea being promoted.

Why Un-Becoming Our Parents Is a Flawed Message

Why? Because many of us have wonderful parents who taught us well; why *wouldn't* we want to be like them? And, as parents ourselves, how should we respond to this ad campaign that diminishes our influence in our kids' lives, devalues our words, and refers to us as outdated and lame?

However funny the commercials may try to be through their ongoing advertisements, they are undermining the place and honor God gives parents in the lives of their children, thereby damaging the family dynamic and promoting the opposite of what God's Word says.

While the ads say over and over again, "don't be like your parents," God tells us over and over again, as in Proverbs 6:20, "My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching."

Sadly, this popular ad campaign is in opposition to God's word, turning adult children's hearts away from gaining wisdom and understanding from one of God's richest resources for their lives: their parents.

8 Reasons God Gives Us to Be Like Our Parents

Unlike Dr. Rick's unbecoming advice about being like our parents, the following are eight reasons why it's okay, and even godly and good, to be like our parents.

1. Our Parents Gave Us Life

SLIDE 1 OF 8

As the giver of life, God holds life-giving things in high regard, considering them sacred. Because He does, He commands that we honor our parents as written in [Ephesians 6:2-3](#): "'Honor your father and mother'—which is the first commandment with a promise, so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Giving birth to a new life is a high calling, God given and designed, to be respected, regardless of whether the parents are perfect. [Proverbs 23:22](#) urges, "Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old."

Sadly, in today's culture, giving life and taking on [parenting](#) responsibilities is not held in high esteem by some; it is frequently diminished and looked down upon.

Tragically, in the United States alone, statistics report that over 1,030,000 abortions were performed in 2024, ending life rather than giving and protecting it.

Although the series of sassy commercials are presented in humorous settings, their messages are dishonoring to our parents who gave us life.

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



September 27 2026

Candles -23.00; Monthly Dues –0.00; Offertory –897.50; St. Luke’s Icon Guild –100.00; Special Gifts-1,500.00; In –2, 520.50; Out- 449.94

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.

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; Dicon Adithia Kusno--Children’s Christian Formation Directo -Young Adult Education; Don Merkley, Website-Facebookh; Lee Alexander-Men’s Club President; Lisa Edwardsr-Liturgical Committee; Ann Merkley-Bookstore Manager-Security

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

9th Donna Ross; 12th Vlodymyr Gavrilenko; 13th Jeff Carden;14th Lily Olson;19th Paula Peltier; 21st Lisa Margan; 22nd Linda Lechman; Katya DahDah; 25th Charlene Yackanich; 26th MaryAnn Drumtra; 30th Mary Grace Dorsey

To Be a Saint – The Forgotten Virtue of Meekness

The quality of meekness is not often discussed. When it is, it's frequently done using terms of timidity or cowardliness. This was not always so. You see, the definition of meekness has been hijacked by modern culture. A culture that seeks to bury its true meaning.

In the past meekness didn't mean to be weak. It meant subjugating anger to reason, the inner strength that restrains. It can be a rare find in others, and sadly, something even harder to find in ourselves. After all we are raised in the modern age to seek, to grasp hold, to be aggressive and passionate so that we can claim what we feel is ours; we celebrate those qualities in our culture.

It was not always so. Historically meekness was considered a virtue, a sub-virtue of the cardinal virtue of temperance. Meekness symbolized self-restraint, emotional regulation and moral leadership, a calming wisdom over violence. Meekness lost its meaning over time, and our culture does not value it or reward it. It is not recognized as a strength, but only a form of timidity, hopeless passivity, cowardly behavior. As the philosopher Nietzsche described, a craven baseness, or slave morality.

Meekness is marked by gentleness, patience, restraint and forbearance, especially under provocation. It is on display when exasperated parents react with control, when teachers do not rise to a student's provocation, when law enforcement and security work to de-escalate situations. In the cases above, emotions are kept under control, especially anger. You see, the parent, the teacher and the law enforcement officer wasn't powerless; rather, it was precisely because they understood how much power they had, that they used restraint and remained composed.

The virtue of meekness has deep roots in both the Old and New Testaments. In a prelude to the Sermon on the Mount, the psalmist declares, *"The meek shall possess the land and delight themselves in abundant peace"*, Ps. 37:11. In the Old Testament, meekness is often associated with a spirit of gentleness and reliance on God. Proverbs extols the value of self-control: *"He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city"*, Prov. 16:32. Far from being passive, meekness demands inner strength and discipline, qualities that align the soul with God's Will. Meekness indeed is the virtue of the lamb.... In the New Testament among the Beatitudes, Jesus' declares, *"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth"*, Mt. 5:5. Jesus here is speaking of the "new earth" spoke of in Rev. 21:1. Jesus' call to meekness is illustrated further on in that sermon when He says, *"Do not resist one who is evil. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also; and if anyone would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well..."* Mt. 5:39-40. This is a difficult faith indeed, but in His public life Jesus shows us the way. He embodies and elevates meekness. Christ's invitation in the Gospel of Matthew underscores His central teaching; *"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle (meek) and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls..."*, Mt. 11:28-30. Christ's meekness is once more

exemplified on the cross in the words, *"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."* Lk.23-34.

Saint Paul identifies meekness as a hallmark of Christian character, urging believers to "put on compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience", Col. 3:12. Many other Saints have commented on the virtue of meekness. For me, it is best described in the writings of St. John of the Ladder (John Climacus, 579-649 AD). In his manuscript, Ladder of Divine Ascent, written around 600AD, he speaks of 30 'steps' as a guide to spiritual life. These steps are organized around the image of a ladder with thirty rungs reaching from earth to heaven. Saint John writes about meekness and innocent simplicity in step 24. He describes meekness as an unchangeable state of mind that remains calm in all situations, including praying for troublesome neighbors and being a rock against irritability. It is a key element in fostering forgiveness, boldness in prayer, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Meekness is also emphasized as a necessary quality for obedience, brotherhood, and discernment, ultimately leading to rest in the Lord and inheritance of the earth.

So, meekness in its traditional meaning becomes an important trait in living a good life. It is a quality to develop and practice. A quality to pass along to your family.

Yours in Christ

Brother Joseph

Men's Club - The club continues its work around the parish into the fall and winter. Members meet (normally on Friday) to do lawn work, maintenance and other work vital to keeping the parish running. If you are interested in getting involved contact Lee after Liturgy._

Carpathian Kitchen - Carpathian Kitchen - Thanks to all who came out for the production run Saturday. We made potato and cheese pierogi, as well as a few dozen mushroom and sauerkraut pierogi. They will be packaged and ready for sale next Sunday.

Security - Our security team also plays an important role in church safety. As part of that, we are looking for a used transport wheel chair that will be kept on-hand in case we need it. The wheel chair should be in good condition and ideally be foldable for compact storage until needed. If you have one or know of one available please see Fr Alex or Dave Efimetz (Office Manager)

Please be mindful when using the kitchen to not leave the stove or ovens unattended when in use.

Bible Study

The next BIBLE study in January to continue on the Prophets, cost \$25 to \$30 for book guide and video lectures. Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

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

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.