

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 Sep 20 26 SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

Gal 2:16-20; Mk 8:34-9:1 Tone 8

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and + Marie McGuckin & Kay Smith by Peter & Lisa Margan

After –Hospitality-Security team Meeting

Tue Sep 22 26 THERE IS NO MORNING SERVICE

Wed Sep 23 26 THERE IS NO MORNING SERVICE

Thu Sep 24 26 THERE IS NO MORNING SERVICE

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

Sat Sep 26 26 **12:30pm Church Cleaning Hours**

Sun Sep 27 26 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Cor 9:6-11; Mk 5:1-11 Tone 1

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

After –Hospitality-Security team Meeting

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

Happy SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

14th Lolly Vinson; 21st Deborah Kotyk; 21st Sr Alphina Chepter; 23rd Peyton Karlson; 24th Zachary Karlson; 28th Lisa Cifrulak Edwards; 29th Christine Noonan; 29th David Efimetz

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

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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.

6 Things That Happen When You Stop Complaining

The Garden of Your Heart

Did you know your words are indicative of the fruit from the garden of your heart? Luke 6:45 teaches us that, "A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart." (NLT)

Complaining about problems or aspects of life is much like that of weeds; they at first appear insignificant or harmless, but before you know it, they can overtake the garden. However, if you catch those weeds before they spread, there is more room for healthy, vibrant fruit to emerge. The same happens when you stop complaining. Complaining is a natural reaction to a situation, but you don't have to submit to the urge; when you stop complaining, you can experience life in a fuller, more beautiful way.

1. A Spirit of Gratitude

SLIDE 1 OF 6

Gratitude is more than just being thankful for something; it is a choice and a heart posture to adopt, regardless of the surroundings. When we choose to be grateful, we let go of bitterness and contempt, and we dismiss the temptation to have a mentality of lack. We instead focus on the positive, remembering the gift and privilege it is to be in such circumstances. Much of what we face today is the result of what was prayed for, waited for, or fought for in the past, so what a gift it is that these are the responsibilities we now are to steward, even in their imperfections. The issues you face today are ones others ache and contend for, what we call a burden others would label a blessing. A spirit of gratitude will enable you to look forward, knowing that to call something good does not mean it is perfect—but it *is* still a gift.

2. Positive Outlook in All Circumstances

SLIDE 2 OF 6

A positive mentality or outlook, despite the circumstances, will take you a long way. When you operate from a "glass half-full" lens, you approach life in many ways from a curious, optimistic, and creative perspective. You never know what might go right, what surprise twist God has behind the scenes, or what unexpected adventure awaits you. Complaining about situations chokes out this ability, but holding a positive mentality gives it life. This is much of what [Jesus](#) meant in [John 10:10](#), that He came to give life and life to the full. It was not to say it would be without ups and downs, but instead that it would be a life fully experienced with Him.

3. Expectation of Joy (Chara)

SLIDE 3 OF 6

Joy can be your experience when it is permitted to take root in your garden. Grumbling stifles the flame of expectation, but what if you instead kindled the fire? Joy does not mean happiness; it is so much more than mere twinkles of emotion. Joy finds its footing in knowing that gladness awaits. In the Greek language, one of the words for joy is *chara*, which means gladness, delight, or awareness of [God's favor](#). Cultivating words of *chara* is not pretending hardships do not exist; instead, it is affirming that God has the final say and He is faithful to see us through all things. The expectation of *chara* is knowing gladness and delight is our portion when we follow Him.

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



September 13 2026

Candles -4.00; Monthly Dues -490.00; Offertory -663.00; Special Gifts-1,000.00; In -2,157.00; Out- 294.35

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 Efimzt – 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

To Be a Saint – The Voice of Evil and Why God Permits Evil to Exist

I had not been following the Lindsay Clancy trial, but I’ll open with it as a lead in to my subject. Clancy confessed to murdering her three children before attempting suicide. Her defense centered on postpartum psychosis. In the end a mistrial was declared by the judge because the jury failed to reach a unanimous decision. Much has been made of the court ruling, and even more of the public reaction. Be careful not to be caught up in the vitriol. Move on from the rhetoric, put aside the hype on social media. Rather pay attention for a moment to the “voices” that Clancy was hearing.

Multiple witnesses testified during the trial that Clancy had reported hearing a voice that directed her to commit the killings. Psychologist Paul Zeisel testified that Clancy had called her husband Patrick Clancy and reported that "she heard a male voice ordering her to do it, telling her she didn't have a choice, she had to kill her children." Sheila Cavanaugh, a hospital chaplain who counseled Clancy after the killings, also testified that Clancy alluded to having heard a voice that told her if she did not follow its command, "neither she nor her children would be safe."

This is not new. Consider a few examples... David Berkowitz (Son of Sam) was plagued by demonic voices. Peter Sutcliffe (Yorkshire Ripper) reported that the “Voice of God” caused him to kill. Herbert Mullin, claimed voices in his head instructed him to offer human sacrifices to avert disaster, killing 13 people in the process. Hannah Bonser murdered a 13-year-old girl on Valentine's Day after she heard the "German voices" of seven people inside her body, who didn't like children, and told her to kill. Conor Betts slaughtered nine people and wounded at least two dozen others, after he heard menacing voices in his head talking about “dark, evil things”. Let’s see now, Anthony Sowell, Nikko Allen Jenkins, Robert Maudsley, all heard voices telling them to kill.

What causes these malevolent voices? For me, there’s more of the demonic activity here than realized, but in a certain sense, does it matter? Whether the voices are caused by mental health conditions, stress, trauma, sleep related issues, medication, drugs, demonic activity or a combination, without some positive action or intervention the end result is the same. In our spiritual journey, we recognize that evil voices can arise unexpectedly, whispering doubts, temptation, accusations and guilt, condemning thoughts and attempts to distort God’s Truth. Be alert, recognize the attack; for wherever it comes from, it is an attack. A strong moral life, a life which cultivates virtue is the best defense. Let’s move on....

Why does God permit evil like this in the world? It’s an age-old question. According to Catholic Catechism, God allows evil so as to fulfill a higher purpose for the greater good, (CCC324). This greater good may be difficult, almost impossible to see, especially in moments of tragedy and suffering. However, it will become clearer to you when you consider it in the light of Christ’s crucifixion and death on the cross. “By death He conquered death”. This teaching echoes Saint Thomas Aquinas, who thought that in God’s Plan, evil is permitted, but ordered toward the ultimate good and the glory of God.

Aquinas and other theologians have developed corroborating theories. One prominent view is the free will defense, which argues that God gave humans free will to love and obey Him, but this freedom allows for the possibility of sin and suffering. As Genesis 3 shows, Adam and Eve’s choice to disobey brought consequences that affect all humanity. This theory suggests that God values authentic relationships over mere obedience, even if it means allowing evil. Another perspective, called the soul-making theodicy, proposes that suffering serves to develop moral and spiritual character. Drawing from James 1:2-4, this view sees trials as opportunities for growth, preparing believers for eternal life. A third theory, the spiritual conflict, emphasizes the role of Satan and spiritual warfare, as seen in Job 1 and Ephesians 6:12. This perspective holds that God allows evil forces to operate within limits to demonstrate His ultimate victory.

Each of these theories attempt to balance God’s goodness, power, and the reality of suffering, though none claims to fully resolve the question. In the end, no mortal can comprehend the mind of God. It is not for us to understand. Faith is critical. God’s allowance of suffering does not negate His love of mankind. It is why He sent His only Son to redeem humanity from evil’s consequences. In the end, God will ultimately end all suffering in a restored creation, as promised in Revelation 21:4.

Yours in Christ
Brother Joseph

Love Dad

Men's Club - Our next meeting is scheduled for November 10th at 6pm. Please schedule to attend.

Carpathian Kitchen - Our next production run is scheduled for 2-3 October. We will be making pierogi for the upcoming Parish craft-show scheduled for Saturday, 24 October.

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)

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.