

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 July 6 **4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Rom 6:18-23 Mt 8:5-13 Tone 3

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parishioners who are in need of special prayer.
After –Hospitality - Put Luck

Tue July 8 8:30 Liturgy For + Peter Nicholas Peltier by Paula Peltier

Wed July 9 8:30 Liturgy For HGB Christopher Berkery by Michelle Massie
After - Moleben to the Theotokos

Thu July 10 8:30 Liturgy For HGB Desiree & Brandon Hartlaub 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 12 7:00am to 1:00pm **YARD & BAKE SALE**
2:00pm Church Cleaning Hours

Sun July 13 **SUNDAY of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils**

Rom 10:1-10 Mt 8:28-9:1or: Heb 13:7-16; Jn 17:1-13 Tone 4

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parishioners & HGB Chris and Frank Janke by Fr. Alex
After –Hospitality - Put Luck

July 12th

Parishioners YARD SALE & BAKE SALE & 7:00am to 1:00pm

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.

We need your help - Did you know that church security goes back to the early church when they had designated guards outside church services? The position was known as Porters. The term dates back to the old testament where Porters held essential roles see 1 Chronicles 9:17-27. Porters duties extended beyond the mere opening and closing of doors and gates; they were entrusted with responsibilities that ensured security and order within sacred spaces. They more things change the more they stay the same.

Today we still grapple with security, and we live in a time where we should all be sensitive to the threats and danger brought about by terrorism and incivility of our society. As the situation develops in the Middle East, there is a potential for spillover here in the States. We are tracking the situation closely, and will take steps as necessary to provide for the safety and security of the parish. With that said, we would welcome volunteers to help augment our security teams. In the mean time I ask all to help us as you can. If you see something amiss please say something to security. Father Alex...

Advisory Bord: Fr. Alex (Pastor)-Security; David Efimizt & Dr. Micheal Lechman-Trustees; 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; Dr. Micheal Lechman-Adult Bible Study; Lisa Edwards-Children’s Christian Formation Director-Liturgical Committee; Ann Merkley-Bookstore Manager

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

Some of those who need special prayer are:

Frank and Chris Janke; Mary Grace Dorsey; Ben Pawers; Betty May Hertz; Emma Bernier; Lolly Vinson; William McGraw; Myron Kotyk; Darren and June Ann Hall; Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea; Ann,Lary, Mary Ann Drumtra & their Family; Elaine Hampton; Dr. Micheal & Linda Lechman; Orysia Stefaniv; Elisabeth Branden; Merly & Teresa Phillips; Mary Sullivan; Mary Saupp; Francis Fenderson; Gareth & Patricia Reeves; Abigail Johnson; Don Wilson & his Family; Johnny Morris; Hazel Reeres; Richard Bapst; Adzima & John Adzima; Michael Derkacz; Retha Williams; Michael & Michaela Bross; Halyna & Micheal; Caroline and Vince Spinella; Sharon & Steve Guethe; Christopher Berkery; Desiree & Brandon Hartlaub 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.

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.

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

Bible Study: the Book of Genesis

The next adult Bible study will be held on July 8 from 5:15 to 6:30 PM.
The session will cover Genesis Chapter 37 - Lesson 22 in the workbook- Joseph, Beloved Son of His Father.

Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

Please Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday Evening Bible Study of Betta Hall at 5:15pm.

Happy July BIRTHDAYS

1st Tom McGraw; 2nd Ory Stefaniw; 6th Sasha Eckstein Kusno; 14th John Alexander; 15th Hahn Falke; 19th Peter Margan;

5 Prayers to Trust God with a Difficult Health Journey

Believers can lean on God’s presence, promises, and peace through fear, pain, and uncertainty, offering heartfelt prayers to help navigate physical suffering with unwavering faith and hope.

SLIDE 4 OF 5

Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.” Galations 6:2 NLT

Lord, I pray for You to help me make wise decisions when choosing my medical team. Please bless me with physicians and staff who will work together to help me heal and recover. I may not always understand their medical explanations or the reasons behind their suggested treatment, but I do trust that they are working in tandem to give me the best possible result. Please bless their lives, health, family, and personal lives. Give them stamina and good rest when their head hits the pillow. Remind me at each appointment and interaction to tell them that I’m praying for them, and I’ve also asked my prayer team to pray for them.

For those who aren’t believers, I pray they’ll see that while I’m trusting them for my medical treatment, my eternal trust is in You alone. They’re working to improve my earthly health, but only You, Lord, will give me eternal health. Praise You, for the assurance that this world is not my forever home.

Lord, You are Jehovah Rapha, the Great Physician, and I trust that You are guiding my medical team with the skills and abilities You’ve given each one. Help me to be kind and appreciative even when I’m going through hard and painful things. Don’t let me take it out on them.

I know it’s challenging and tiring for those who care for me. Give me patience, gratitude, and words to express how much I appreciate the sacrifice they’re making for me. Remind me that they’re only trying to help me even when it’s painful, embarrassing, and uncomfortable. Let me witness Christian love well, and prompt me to ask how I can pray for them.

Thank you, Lord, for those who’ve devoted their life to being a part of other people’s difficult journeys. Amen

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

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



FINANCIALS, June 29, 2025

Monthly Dues –350.00; Offertory –511.00; Rental-100.00; Holyday-25.00; Candles - 9:00 In –1,495.79; Out- 283.99

Candles for July

Sanctuary Lamp...+ Drago Margan by Peter Margan
Tetrapod... + Steven Margan by Peter Margan
Theotokos & Child... For Family by Oksana Makowiec
John Baptist... For Our Parishioners
St Nicholas... For Nicholas Yacknich by Evelyn Yackanich
Protection Theotokos... For Our Parishioners
Christ Teacher... + Katharina Margan by Peter Margan

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

To Be a Saint – Do Not Be Surprised; Do Not Be Afraid.

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.” Jn. 15:18

“Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,” 2 Tim. 3:12

“And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.” Mk. 13:13

I could fill this entire letter with biblical quotes concerning the warnings we have been given about the persecution of Christians. It is as prevalent as any of the Bible’s messages, with the exception of the underlying theme of God’s love.

As we enter a period where there is a heighten concern about terrorism, we should be aware that the church is already under attack. The Family Research Council’s 2023 report found that attacks on churches are at an all-time high, occurring in all 50 states. Specifically, the report documented more than 430 incidents in 2023, double the figure for 2022, amounting to an 800% increase since 2018, for an average of 39 attacks per month. According to the report, from January 2018 to November 2023, there were 709 vandalisms, 135 arson attacks or attempts at arson, 22 incidents involving firearms, 32 bomb threats, and 61 incidents involving assaults, threats, and interruption of worship.

I tend to focus on the United States, but what about the rest of the world? Thus far in 2025, 4,476 Christians were murdered globally. Out of that, 3,100 Christians were slaughtered in Nigeria alone. What’s with Nigeria? Twelve Nigerian States have adopted an extremely strict form of Shariah Law into their legal system. Under this system, where the Islamic religion and the legal system are the same, just being a Christian is often a crime punishable by death.

Outside Nigeria, the number of Christians killed for their faith increased compared to last year (1,376 in 2025 versus 880 in 2024), largely due to increasing violence in other countries in central and west Africa. These killings are largely due to the action of jihadist groups affiliated with the al-Qaeda network. Add to that, 4,744 Christians around the world were detained without trial, the highest number since 2020. India had 1,629 detentions recorded during the period covered by the report.

Religious repression of the Catholic Church in China seems to take on another form. Since the 2018 China-Vatican agreement on the appointment of bishops, the Chinese government’s persecution of the Catholic Church is largely targeted against the bishops who resist Chinese Communist Party control over religious matters. The CCP has subjected 10 Vatican appointed bishops to either indefinite detention, disappearances, open-ended investigations, banishments from their dioceses, or other impediments to their ministries, including threats, surveillance, interrogation, and so-called reeducation. The church in China has gone underground in many areas. The term they use is “house churches”, which is literally someone’s house or apartment in which the faithful secretly gather for prayers, bible study or, when a priest is available, the sacraments.

Then there are the most recent attacks, like the attack during Divine Liturgy at Mar Elias Greek Orthodox Church outside Damascus, on June 22, 2025, where three terrorists shattered the sanctity of the service with bullets and explosives. A quick note of recognition. Those who disrupted the attack and lost their life in the process, saved countless other lives. They are martyrs in the finest sense.

But take heart. Out of the hatred, attacks and intimidation something is happening. Orthodox and Catholic services go on in Syria without pause. The attack did nothing to stop the Church. In China the bishops are not giving in, and the “House Churches” are growing dramatically. Even with all the power of the Chinese Communist Party, the church continues and is growing.

Many Muslims around the world are coming to Jesus Christ, specifically over the last ten years. The term used is

Moslem Background Believers (MBBs). Despite the fierce persecution and pressure from Islamic culture, an unprecedented number of Muslims across the Middle East and Africa are turning to Christianity. Apostasy laws in some countries (Nigeria) criminalize conversion from Islam to Christianity, making it punishable by imprisonment or death; but still they come, they convert.

Does this surprise you? It is the same fire and spirit, which caused the pagans of the 1st Century to come to admire and then imitate the early Christians who willingly accepted martyrdom. Christianity thrives were there is persecution, and withers where there is neglect, laziness and sloth.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Mt. 5:10-12

These are the words of Christ. Do not be afraid, for God is with us.

Yours in Christ

Brother Joseph

"Like Heaven, a Catholic parish is comprised of family, there are no strangers."

For new members of the parish, the Men's Club and Carpathian Kitchen events are among the many ways to be involved and become family.

Men's Club

SAVE A DATE FOR ... The Men's Club presentation of - *A Mid-Summer's Night Chicken Dinner!* Tuesday, July 15th, 6pm in the church hall. Dinner starts at 6pm followed by a presentation from Ms. Jill Holroyd concerning the 50 years of service of FISH in the Williamsburg area. Best of all, its free !!! Fried chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, corn on the cob, etc...

In order to determine what to plan for we will ask for those coming to sign up after liturgy on Sunday leading up to the event.

Carpathian Kitchen -

Carpathian Kitchen -Thank you to all who came out to support our production run this weekend. We have a freezer full of fresh made potato and cheese pierogi which will be bagged and ready for sale next Sunday.

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

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.

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.

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.

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;

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.