

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 26 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1Cor 3:9-17; Mt 14:22-34 Tone 8

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and Dr. Nadia, Keit & Adriana Shockley by Fr. Alex

After –Hospitality-The Blessing of CARS

Tue July 28 8:30 Liturgy. For HGB our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need: by Fr. Alex

6:00pm - Men’s Club Meeting

Wed July 29 8:30 Liturgy For victory and peace in Ukraine by Fr. Alex

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

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

Sat Aug 1 12:30pm Church Cleaning Hours

Sun Aug 2 10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1Cor 4:9-16; Mt 1&:14-23 Tone 1

11:00 Divine Liturgy For Our Parish and HGB *Sb. Deacon Adithia Kusno* by Fr. Alex

After –Hospitality

A Joyful Parish Celebration

With great joy, we announce that our own Subdeacon Adithia Kusno will be ordained to the Holy Diaconate on Sunday, **August 2, 2026**, at Carpathian Village in Cresco, Pennsylvania. In thanksgiving to God for this wonderful blessing, our parish family will celebrate with a potluck luncheon following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 9, 2026, in honor of our newly ordained Deacon Adithia Kusno. The Old Testament Grillers will provide the main course, and we invite everyone to bring a favorite side dish to share. Your participation will help make this a joyful celebration of this important milestone in the life of Deacon-candidate Adithia and our parish community. Please join us as we congratulate Deacon-candidate Adithia, offer our prayers for his ministry, and ask the Lord to grant him Many Years!

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.

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.

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

The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is fully operational and located on the wall above the fire extinguisher in St. Phillips Hall. Eight parishioners were certified on the use of the AED and other parishioners have been certified in the past. Periodic updates will follow. Dr. Michael Lechman.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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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.

7 Bedtime Bible Verses for Spiritual Warfare

If sleep feels like a nightly battle, you're not imagining it. These verses will help you take spiritual authority over the fear and chaos keeping you awake.

Are you struggling to sleep well? Maybe you're having trouble falling asleep because worries are running through your mind, or waking up in the middle of the night feeling afraid after terrible nightmares. Sometimes, your sleep may be disturbed by physical issues, such as not going to bed at consistent times or not having a bedroom that's quiet and cool enough to sleep well. But if you can't get the peaceful sleep you need, despite doing your best to take care of your physical sleep needs, you may be facing [spiritual warfare](#). In this fallen world, there are [evil spirits](#) trying to interfere with the well-being of God's people, like you. They know that if they can, they can discourage you and diminish your energy to serve God. While you need to fight spiritual battles all the time, you're often the most vulnerable when you're sleeping. That's because you're not active in resisting spiritual attacks, like you can while you're awake, by praying and choosing how to focus your mind.

But the good news is that God's power is far greater than any kind of evil you'll ever encounter, and God will help you fight during spiritual warfare. God has given you the most powerful spiritual weapons in existence: God's Word and the authority of prayer through your relationship with Jesus. You can use those weapons to protect yourself and enjoy the peaceful sleep and [positive dreams](#) God wants for you. Here are seven bedtime Bible verses you can meditate on and pray about before you go to sleep.

SLIDE 1 OF 7

"In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety." – [Psalm 4:8](#)

When you lie down in bed, your mind is no longer preoccupied with all the activities that kept you busy during the day. You have more mental space for your worries to run uncontrolled through your mind. This is when it's especially important to remind yourself that God is protecting you, so you're safe. This verse can give you the confidence you need to trust God instead of giving in to fear. [Psalm 4:8](#) declares that you definitely can lie down and sleep. You can rest assured that safe sleep is possible for you, because [God is present with you](#).

Even if you don't have the ideal conditions for sleeping (like a quiet house or a lack of stress), you have God right there with you, protecting you. So, when you feel vulnerable or fearful feelings creep in, stand your ground. Say this verse out loud into the darkness to declare that God is your security system. In [prayer](#), hand over all the concerns on your mind to God to handle, and then relax with the confidence that you can sleep safely.

SLIDE 2 OF 7

"When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet." – [Proverbs 3:24](#)

This verse gives you powerful promises to rely on when you ask God to help you sleep well – you won't be afraid, and your sleep will be sweet. At [bedtime](#), meditate on those promises. Let your mind reject the temptation to dwell on any anxious thoughts that evil spirits might use to steal your peace. Evil often uses fear to attack you, but this verse is like your spiritual shield. Imagine yourself being covered and protected by God's love like a blanket wrapped around you so securely that fear can't reach you. Breathe deeply and [pray for God to fight anxiety for you](#).

Acknowledge any [anxiety](#) that tries to creep in and, in the name of [Jesus](#), declare that it has no authority over you or your sleep. Ask God to stop any attempt by evil forces to disrupt your sleep with nightmares, restlessness, or anxious thoughts. Pray specifically for a "sweet" sleep – a deep sleep that refreshes you completely and prepares you for the next day. As you drift off to sleep, let the final thought in your mind be the assurance of God's protection and the sweet peace he promises to give you.

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



July 19, 2026

Monthly Dues –225.00.00; Offertory –540.00; Candles -21.00; Special Gifts – 1,000.00
In –1,811.00; Out- 5,823.97

Happy July BIRTHDAYS

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

Candles for July

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

SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOMED.

Many unique items come into the shop weekly. We have a great selection of special-occasion gifts and religious items unique to the Williamsburg area, including a wide selection of spiritual books, music, icons and devotional and inspirational articles plus hand-made soaps and local honey. Special orders welcomed.

To Be a Saint – Put It in God’s Hands

“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7)

“Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you” (Psalm 55:22)

Truthfully now. Are you someone who worries over everything, your problems, our problems, their problems, the world’s problems? Are you someone who cannot let any of it go?

How much energy is wasted on worrying? How far are we distracted by worries and anxieties; distractions that take us from things that truly matter like our family, our health; distractions that take us from God; for after all are we not called to put God at the center of our life?

When we view the world through the lens of our worries, it becomes a darker place indeed. Holding onto our worries to tightly is telling in both physical and mental ways; loss of sleep, tremors, heart damage, ulcers, mental manifestations such as depression and anger, along with attitudes such as cynicism and skepticism. Then there are the broken relationships, mental breakdowns, and even Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

The reasons are many. For some it may be a General Anxiety Disorder, but for many it is self-induced. Our technology is seemingly all-invasive. It brings the world’s issues, politics and problems to us minute by minute. Increasingly we carry it with us on our smart phones everywhere. In the market place, in our cars, yes even in Church. We seemingly are hooked on it. Many have become info junkies to the smart phones and similar devices. It’s a compulsive habit, an addiction, and with that has come much of our modern day worry and anxiety.

Do you have enough humility, faith, and confidence in God, to hand your problems and your worries over to Him? To God, none of our issues or worries presents any challenge whatsoever. God’s love for us conquers all, so why do you shoulder them by yourself? Let them go.

Listen to God’s understanding of our predicament in scripture. It is one of those recurring themes I speak about so often.

Jesus’ final words, *“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit”*, Lk. 23:46. Even in His last breath of mortal life Jesus shows us the way. This means releasing expectations and trusting His plans, even when they differ from your own.

God invites you to commit your plans to Him. *“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans”* (Proverbs 16:3)

Romans 8:28 assures that *“in all things God works for the good of those who love Him”*. Jeremiah 29:11 declares *“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”*

There’s much more. Yes, the birds do not sow or reap, and the lilies do not toil or spin, yet are cared for by God. So too, we should not worry endlessly about our needs because God provides for them.

Pray openly about your worries and problems. Make it a daily prayer, not just a “one and done”. Choose a course of intentional disengagement. Establish strong, clear boundaries of

what concerns you. Whatever is outside that immediate boundary, disengage from it. Learn to put all your remaining worries then in God’s hands. He will guide you in addressing each of them.

After all, at our judgement we will not be asked about our worries, what bothered us, nor our opinions. We will be judged on how well we loved God and our neighbor, how we imitated Christ, what fruit we bore on the vine.

And so with that, *“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.”* *The Serenity Prayer*

Yours in Christ

Brother Joseph

Men's Club - Congratulations to the club who celebrated their 13th anniversary this week. The Old Testament Grillers will not be grilling at the 2 Aug potluck, but will return to the grill on 9 August to grill hamburgers and hotdogs as part of a special celebration for Deacon Audi!

Carpathian Kitchen - Our next planned pierogi production run is scheduled for 7-8 August.

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)

Sponsorship Opportunity

We are in the process of ordering the 2027 Catholic Byzantine Calendar for our parish. There is an opportunity for you to sponsor our parish calendar in 2027. The sponsorship can be in memory of or honor of a person or the name of a business. If you are interested, see Dave Efimetz for details by Sunday, July 26, 2026.

Bible Study

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

Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

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

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% reinvestmentto 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.