

## 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 May 3 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30 Jn 4:5-42 Festal Tone

11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parishioners and HGB Laura Sotack and Scott George on the day of their marriage by Dr. Maryjean Sotack

After –Hospitality - Put Luck

Tue May 5 8:30 Divine Liturgy + Peter, Nicholas Peltier by Paula Peltier

Wed May 6 8:30 Divine Liturgy HGB Helen M. Luecke by Fr. Alex

Thu May 7 8:30 Divine Liturgy HGB Peter & Lisa Margan by Fr. Alex

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

Sat May 9 1:00pm Church Cleaning Hours

### Sun May 10 Sunday of the Man Born Blind – **Mother's Day**

Acts 16:16-34 Jn 9:1-38 Festal Tone

11:00 Divine Liturgy For All Our Parish **and Our MOTHERS**

After –Hospitality

### Happy MAY BIRTHDAYS

20th Larry Drumtra; 29th Jeffrey Sotack

Dear God, Bless All Mothers...

"Dear God, we thank you for the gift of mothers and for the unique love and care they offer. On this Mother's Day, we lift up our mothers and all mothers to you, asking for your blessings of strength, peace, and joy. May they feel your love and grace as we celebrate their dedication and sacrifice. Help us to honor them with love and gratitude, and to show them the depth of our appreciation for all they do. We ask for your guidance and support for them as they navigate the challenges of motherhood. In your name, we pray. Amen."

**New playground mulch has been spread.** Thank you Tom McGraw, Nick Towers, Michelle Massie and Clifford Collier for making our playground beautiful! 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; Aurora & Jaime Daquilanea; Lary & Mary Ann Drumtra & their Family; Elaine Hampton; Dr. Micheal & Linda Lechman; Elisabeth Branden; Merly & Teresa Phillips; Mary Sullivan; Michael & Michaela Bross; Peter & Lisa Margan; Wayne Smith & his Family: Austin; If you would like to add your name or name of a loved one to this list, please contact Fr. Alex. Thank you.

**Visitors, family and friends:** Are you curious, do you have questions or inquirers about our church, icons, Divine Liturgy, or Byzantine Catholic traditions? Someone will be waiting to answer your questions after Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings in the vicinity of the icon corner at the front of the sanctuary. Don't be afraid to ask, there are no wrong questions.

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

### **Bible Study**

The next evening Bible study will be held on Tuesday May 12 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. For questions, please text 757-880-5093. Respectfully submitted, Dr. Michael Lechman

The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is fully operational and located on the wall above the fire extinguisher in St. Phillips Hall. Eight parishioners were certified on the use of the AED on Oct 8,2023 and other parishioners have been certified in the past. Periodic updates will follow. Dr. Michael Lechman.

**Liturgy and Candle Requests:** Often we want to remember someone and offer special prayers for the departure of a loved one, special occasion, birthday, anniversary, etc. with celebration of a Divine Liturgy or lighting of a candle in front of an icon. To request a liturgy or candle, please complete the form in the appropriate envelope which you will find in the rack on the wall as you enter Ascension church and place it in the Sunday offering basket. Thank you. Fr. Alex.

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

#### *4 Loving Ways God Uses Marriage Conflict to Help You Grow*

#### **4. Prayer**

##### **SLIDE 4 OF 4**

*Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.* [Philippians 4:6](#) NLT

When you're upset with someone or you feel hurt by them, the last thing you typically want to do is pray for them. Our human nature when someone hurts you is to want to hurt them back, or at least play the victim for a while and make them suffer.

Choosing to pray for your spouse when you are upset with them actually helps you mature and grow closer to God and to your spouse. While it may be tempting to simply pray for them to see the errors of their ways and to see that you are right, praying for the following three things will help your heart change toward them and help make your relationship better.

**Thank God for them.** So many of Paul's prayers in the New Testament begin with [thanksgiving](#) because he knew the importance of being thankful for the people God had placed in his life. When you take time to thank God for your spouse, it helps you remember how much you love them and how much of a blessing they are to you (something that's easily forgotten when you are mad at them for something).

**Pray for what they need.** Ask God to give your spouse what they need at that time. It may be peace in their soul, it may be for them to grow closer to God and to hear His voice, or it may be for them to accept Him as their savior if they haven't done that yet. The beauty of prayer is that God knows what you need before you ask Him, so you can pray simply that God gives them what they need and He will do the rest.

**Pray for yourself.** Ironically, probably the most important thing when praying for your spouse is to pray for yourself. Pray for God to change your heart and allow you to move past whatever is bothering and/or hurting you and to grow closer to Him through it. You are the only one you have control over in your relationship, so ask God to work in you to help your [marriage](#) grow stronger.

**Practical Application:** The next time you are angry at your spouse, go into another room and take a minute to pray for these three things and give your frustrations over to God and then watch your attitude change.

When you choose to let God work in your heart through conflict with your spouse, you can strengthen your relationship with God, grow in maturity, grow closer to your spouse, and experience more peace in your relationship.

\*\*This advice is directed toward minor disagreements in marriages. If you are facing more severe issues in your [marriage](#) like infidelity or abuse, it is best for you to pursue professional help.

## **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



*April 26, 2026*

Monthly Dues –100.00; Offertory – 1,311.00; Candles - 3.00; ECL – 0.00; St. Luke's Icon Guild – 80. 00; Special Gifts-0.00;  
In – 1, 494.00; Out- 474. 32

### **Candles for February**

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.

**Parish Activities:** All activities should be recorded on the [main calendar](#). Please write in the activity you are responsible for and let Fr. Alex know the details so he can include it in the bulletin.

## To Be a Saint – Quo Vadis?

There is a Catholic tradition where Peter is fleeing Rome and its Christian persecution. As he walks down the road that leads out of Rome, he encounters Christ, walking towards Rome. Surprised by this encounter, Peter asks Jesus, “Quo Vadis?”, (Where are you going?). Wearily, Jesus looks at Peter and tells him, “I am going to Rome to be crucified again.” As the story goes, this encounter led Peter to turn around and go back to Rome where he was indeed crucified. Quo Vadis? Sometimes we ask ourselves the same question. It’s not easy living a Christian life, and we often find ourselves traveling a different road, or do not feel up to the task of traveling the road of our faith. Many of the Churches’ greatest Saints knew that feeling. They stumbled, rebelled, chased other dreams. In the end, God’s persistent love and calling won out. Let’s consider a few in this letter.

The Prophet Isaiah: “Woe to me! I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty!” Is.6:5. When we first meet Isaiah, he encounters God and the angels, his knees buckle. Isaiah knows that he is far from perfect. Sure, he may not have stumbled as badly as Israel’s kings, but Isaiah recognizes that he doesn’t have what it takes for what God is calling him to do, especially because of his sin. He worries about serving as Israel’s mouthpiece because of his unclean lips. One of the angels places a burning coal to Isaiah’s lips, a cleansing of sorts, then he says this. “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for”, Is. 6:7. Regardless of sin or how we see ourselves, God sees us for His purpose, and provides the grace necessary to fulfill His Plan.

Saint Augustine of Hippo: Saint Augustine is widely regarded as one of the greatest theologians in Christian history. He certainly did not start out to be one. As a teenager Augustine abandoned the Christian faith in which he had been raised by his mother, St. Monica. He moved in with a mistress, and together they had a son out of wedlock. Augustine became a well-known orator and studied the pagan philosophies of Plato. But his life changed after having discussions about Christianity with a friend, and hearing a child’s voice telling him to pick up a scroll and read it. In the scroll he read a passage from Saint Paul to the Romans, “Not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying, but put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to fulfill the lusts thereof.”, Rm. 13:13-14. This inspired Augustine to come back to the faith and complete God’s plan for him. Saint Mary of Egypt: During the 4<sup>th</sup> century, Mary ran away from home and spent seventeen years as a prostitute in the city of Alexandria. Led by her passions, Mary later confessed of those she seduced, “There is no mentionable or unmentionable depravity of which I was not their teacher.” Tagging along with a group of pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem for the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, she boarded a ship and seduced many before reaching their destination. However, while in Jerusalem, Mary had an encounter outside of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Upon seeing an icon of the Holy Theotokos, she was struck with remorse, which

prevented her from going inside the church. A sense of utter unworthiness caused her to repent of her sins, and she was reconciled with the church. She spent the rest of her life as a hermit in the desert and continually fought temptations to turn back to her depravity, until God granted her peace of soul. Her life serves as a powerful example of God’s mercy and the transformative power of repentance. No one is beyond the reach of God and His mercy.

Saint Teresa of Avila: When Teresa was a child she loved God deeply. Following her mother’s death when Teresa was 11 years old, she began to drift away from her faith, along with her childhood dream of becoming a nun. She loved socializing, and wrestled with her doubts about the idea of a religious vocation. At 20, she did join a convent, but it was more of a matter of something to do, rather than a vocation. There were few rules and she was allowed a certain amount of socializing, a comfortable situation. Then a long illness forced her into solitude and contemplation. As it happened, she began reading Saint Augustine, and in time she developed a fervent love of Christ. From then on, she sought solitude so she could hear the voice of Christ. She went on to reform the Carmelite Order, bringing back a life of simplicity and deep communion with God.

I could go on, for there are many more stories of those who traveled a different road until God intervened. You are no different. He is calling you. Do not be afraid to answer.

Yours in Christ

Brother Joseph

**Men's Club - Thanks to the Old testament Grillers for the work at the grill. We look forward to the breakfast sandwiches!! The next Men's Club meeting will be Tuesday May 19th 6pm. Anyone wishing to get involved in yard maintenance during the summer please contact Lee and he will get you involved.**

**Carpathian Kitchen - Thanks to all who came out to support the pierogi production run this weekend! They are resting in the freezer for now, and will be bagged this week, ready for sale next Sunday. Meanwhile we have a limited supply for sale after liturgy today (3 bags of pierogi and a small amount of piroshki). Stop by the bar in the hall after Liturgy to buy yours. Church Cleaning:**

We have a very dedicated team at Ascension who cleans God’s house weekly generally on Saturdays. However, sometimes schedules run thin and so we are in need of a few more helping hands. Please find it in your heart to help us with this very important ministry for only one hour a week. Thanks to all of you for your hard work and time. Betty Mae Hertz

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

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

## Psalm 1

**Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

Blessed the man who follows not  
the counsel of the wicked  
Nor walks in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the company of the insolent,  
But delights in the law of the LORD  
and meditates on his law day and night.

**Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

He is like a tree  
planted near running water,  
That yields its fruit in due season,  
and whose leaves never fade.  
Whatever he does, prospers.

**Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

Not so, the wicked, not so;  
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.  
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,  
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

**Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

## Psalm 95

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Messiah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

## Psalm 23

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
Beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

He guides me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk in the dark valley  
I fear no evil; for you are at my side  
With your rod and your staff  
that give me courage.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

You spread the table before me  
in the sight of my foes;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me  
all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
for years to come.

**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

## Psalm 16

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you."  
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

You will show me the path to life,  
fullness of joys in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.

**Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**

## Psalm 138

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,  
for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;  
I will worship at your holy temple,  
and give thanks to your name.

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

Because of your kindness and your truth,  
you have made great above all things  
your name and your promise.  
When I called, you answered me;  
you built up strength within me.

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

Your right hand saves me.  
The LORD will complete what he has done for me;  
your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.

**Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**

## Psalm 113

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

Praise, you servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD  
both now and forever.

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

From the rising to the setting of the sun  
is the name of the LORD to be praised.  
High above all nations is the LORD;  
above the heavens is his glory.

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high  
and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

He raises up the lowly from the dust;  
from the dunghill he lifts up the poor  
To seat them with princes,  
with the princes of his own people.

**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**

## Psalm 104

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!  
How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
the earth is full of your creatures.

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD be glad in his works!  
Pleasing to him be my theme;  
I will be glad in the LORD.

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

If you take away their breath, they perish  
and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth.

**Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

## Psalm 11

The LORD is in his holy temple;  
the LORD's throne is in heaven.  
His eyes behold,  
his searching glance is on mankind.

**The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**

The LORD searches the just and the wicked;  
the lover of violence he hates.  
For the LORD is just, he loves just deeds;  
the upright shall see his face.

**The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**

### Psalm 103

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul;  
and all my being, bless his holy name.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

The LORD has established his throne in heaven,  
and his kingdom rules over all.  
Bless the LORD, all you his angels,  
you mighty in strength, who do his bidding.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

### Psalm 15

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

He who walks blamelessly and does justice;  
who thinks the truth in his heart  
and slanders not with his tongue.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Who harms not his fellow man,  
nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor;  
By whom the reprobate is despised,  
while he honors those who fear the LORD.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Who lends not his money at usury  
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things  
shall never be disturbed.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

## Exodus 15

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
He is my God, I praise him;  
the God of my father, I extol him.

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The LORD is a warrior,  
LORD is his name!  
Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea;  
the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The flood waters covered them,  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,  
your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

**Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

## Psalm 69

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

I am sunk in the abysmal swamp  
where there is no foothold;  
I have reached the watery depths;  
the flood overwhelms me.

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

But I pray to you, O LORD,  
for the time of your favor, O God!  
In your great kindness answer me  
with your constant help.

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

But I am afflicted and in pain;  
let your saving help, O God, protect me;  
I will praise the name of God in song,  
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

“See, you lowly ones, and be glad;  
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!  
For the LORD hears the poor,  
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.”

**Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.**

## Psalm 106

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

Our fathers made a calf in Horeb  
and adored a molten image;  
They exchanged their glory  
for the image of a grass-eating bullock.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

They forgot the God who had saved them,  
who had done great deeds in Egypt,  
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,  
terrible things at the Red Sea.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

Then he spoke of exterminating them,  
but Moses, his chosen one,  
Withstood him in the breach  
to turn back his destructive wrath.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

## Psalm 99

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

Extol the LORD, our God,  
and worship at his footstool;  
holy is he!

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
and Samuel, among those who called upon his name;  
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

From the pillar of cloud he spoke to them;  
they heard his decrees and the law he gave them.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

Extol the LORD, our God,  
and worship at his holy mountain;  
for holy is the LORD, our God.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

## Psalm 95

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tested me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

## Psalm 106

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

We have sinned, we and our fathers;  
we have committed crimes; we have done wrong.  
Our fathers in Egypt  
considered not your wonders.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

But soon they forgot his works;  
they waited not for his counsel.  
They gave way to craving in the desert  
and tempted God in the wilderness.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

They forgot the God who had saved them,  
who had done great deeds in Egypt,  
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,  
terrible things at the Red Sea.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

Then he spoke of exterminating them,  
but Moses, his chosen one,  
Withstood him in the breach  
to turn back his destructive wrath.

**Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

**Psalm 97**

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many islands be glad.  
Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,  
before the LORD of all the earth.  
The heavens proclaim his justice,  
and all peoples see his glory.

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

Because you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth,  
exalted far above all gods.

**The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

**Psalm 85**

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD—for he proclaims peace  
To his people, and to his faithful ones,  
and to those who put in him their hope.

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven.

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,  
and salvation, along the way of his steps.

**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**