# Not one stone will be left upon another

**LUKE 21:6** 

#### TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org
The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor
The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission
Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director
Mr. Philip High, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist
Mrs. Stephanie Fitzpatrick/Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton
Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

# TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/HARVEST HOME SUNDAY 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

The Sundays after Pentecost, also called "common or ordinary time," constitute a season of growth in Christian faith, life, and ministry. Nearly half of the Christian year is reserved for this season, which spans the Sundays between Pentecost (50 days after Easter) and Advent (around Thanksgiving.)

Traditionally, the liturgical color of ordinary time is green. Green is the color of nature and growth. It symbolizes the need of Christians to be disciples, persons who live out the values of the gospel and share them joyfully with others. During this time, the scriptural texts, sermons, and hymns are usually directed toward the task of helping us grow as faithful followers of Jesus Christ and bear good fruit in our witness.

**Today's Theme:** The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in the word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Activity bags for children can be found in the Narthex. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex and receive a gift of Trinity Bread from our greeters. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

**HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES** are located in the Narthex!

**Prayer As You Enter:** O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



## CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



#### TRINITY U.C.C. VISION STATEMENT:

All will know the love of God through the teachings of Jesus!!

#### Trinity U.C.C. is called by God to:

- --Share God's love with our community
- --Serve God's children
- --Bring healing and wholeness to those in need
- --Share the Gospel in liturgy, music, and study

## BY YOUR SILENCE OTHERS MAY HEAR THE STILL SMALL VOICE OF GOD!

#### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come before him.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere God. Jesus invited saints and sinners to dine with him and to be his friends.

Therefore, Jesus invites us, saints and sinners, to this sacred meal, in which we can taste and see, experience and remember the goodness of our God.

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sins against God and one another.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

#### SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Faithful God, you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts and bring us to new life. Amen.

#### **KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

#### ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### COLLECT FOR TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Eternal God, your truth is as constant as the North Star, your precepts are as solid as the foundations of the earth. Help us hear and follow your word amid the voices that would deceive us. Grow in our lives and sanctify us with your Holy Spirit, that the fruit of your salvation may grow within us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

## THE WORD OF GOD

#### THE FIRST LESSON

Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger", warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

**PSALTER** 

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonians community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 21:5-19

As history towards God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to GOD and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

#### THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

**SERMON** 

"Keep Showing Up!"

**Pastor Rankin** 

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PEOPLE'S OFFERING

#### OFFERING DEDICATION

We rejoice, O God, in the new world you are creating around us and within us. We give thanks for the joy we find in the church as we draw water from the wells of salvation. It is our intention to share the joy, to proclaim your Word among all nations, to work quietly and enthusiastically for a world where your love reigns. To these ends, we dedicate our offerings in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Holy One, almighty and eternal God, always and everywhere, through Jesus Christ, the only one begotten by you for all time, by whom you made the world and all things. We bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and for calling us to be your people. Although we rebelled against your love, you did not abandon us in our sin but sent to us prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus, our savior, who is the way, the truth, and the life. In the fullness of time, you came to us and received our nature in the person of Jesus, who in obedience to you, by suffering on the cross, and being raised from the dead, delivered us from the way of sin and death. We thank you for the Holy Spirit who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and gathers us from every nation to unite us in one holy church. Therefore, with the entire company of saints in heaven and on earth, we worship and glorify you, God Most Holy.

Holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

#### THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

## RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

#### RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements at the back of the sanctuary and commune in your pew or ask someone near you to have the pastor and assistant come to you in the pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. On this Harvest Home Sunday, we ask you to bless the staff and volunteers of the Lancaster Food Hub as they serve those in need. May the vulnerable ones in our society see your love and compassion in the gifts of food we offer today. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

#### SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

By your word and sacraments, O God, you have given us a foretaste of the new heaven and new earth that will be ours forever. Strengthen us in this vision that we might draw others to believe in the hope that is ours, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **CLOSE OF WORSHIP**

#### **BENEDICTION**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chancel Flowers are given by Janet Harriger in memory of mother Dorothy, the best mom ever, and brother Miles, the best older brother I could have asked for.

The Worship Aids are given by Ken and Phyllis Zimmerman in this Thanksgiving season to thank God for the strength, healing and support he provided during this past year.

Attendance for Sun., November 9 Sunday School

7:45–14 10:30–74

TOTAL - 88

25

**Ministering Today** 

**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin

**Lector** Rev. Sandy Morris

Money Counters Diane Rice, Karen Olley, George DeLong, Jodi Keller

Altar Guild Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker, Nancy

Enders

Koinonia Hedwig Hunsicker

Building Trustee Pat Sensenig

Ministries Card Trinity Preschool

Called to Care Nancy Enders Visitation JoAnn Mowrer

#### Happy Birthday!

Today – Autumn Shenk

Monday – Megan Good

Tuesday – Stan Seachrist

Wednesday – Donna Zirkel

Friday - Diane Minnich

Saturday - Rev. Robert Bistline

## This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)

Today Following 2<sup>nd</sup> Service-Meal with a Mission

Monday 7:00 PM – SOT Choir/8:15 PM Bells

Tuesday 1:00 PM – Prayer Shaw

7:00 PM – Consistory

Thursday 1:00 PM – Pinochle

6:00 PM – Parish Life

6:00 PM – Cub Scouts

Saturday 8:00 PM – Alanon/AA Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM – Sunday School

10:00 AM - Koinonia 10:30 AM - Eucharist

Rev. Elizabeth Hambrick-Stowe, Guest Preacher

#### PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

#### **MEMBERS**

Donna Zirkel Rev. Jack Esbenshade Carmen & Jerry Richards Ron & Donna Denlinger John Shelsky Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline Janice Jenkins Mid Gockley Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman

Rhonda Hartenstine Joann Peck Scott & Jane Owens
The Lehman family Mary Lou Shaab Donna Wolf & Family

George & Ellie Latsha Himelwright Family Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman

Sam Minder III Lori Daly Rev. Bob Musser

Pat Seachrist Erika Otthofer Danielle Huggins Holbein

Betty Fogle Betty Tyndall & family Michael McDonough
Denise Huggins Don Miller Bob & Marlyn Wible

Ron Becker Joann Garvin & Family Arlene Hoxworth

Mary Lou Sturgis Pastor Harry Royer Hank Fox Kathleen Sensenig Adams Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen

#### **FAMILY & FRIENDS**

The family of J. Michael Hoffer (brother-in-law of Kathy Pilsner)

Terry & Carol Kratz

Rev. Dr. Harry & Kathy Covert (former members of Trinity Church)

The Reed Family

Beverly Steele (friend of Joan Cash & Pastor Chris' 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher)

Greg Gable (husband of Rev. Sandy Morris)

Chase Heagy and Family (friend of Andrew Rankin)

Carol Feyock (friend of Carmen & Jerry Richards)

Janet Latsha (sister-in-law of George & Ellie Latsha)

Sherry Kline (former substitute organist at Trinity)

Lynnette Fritz (cousin of Betty Tyndall)

Andrew Hicks (husband of Katie Weeber)

Matthew Davis (brother-in-law of Hillary Bossert-Davis)

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)

Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)

Ken Hoshauer (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Mary Call (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call)

The Herr Family (Former Trinity Preschool Family)

David Brown (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)

James Malone & family

Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)

Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)
Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

#### OTHER CONCERNS

Victims of Disasters

**World Peace** 

Church World Service & Other Faith-Based Relief Organizations

THE NOVEMBER PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building. The deadline for the December is tomorrow!

**POINSETTIAS:** Forms to order Christmas poinsettias are available on the table outside the office. **The deadline to order is TODAY.** The cost for each poinsettia is \$6.00.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** The Knit in God's Love Prayer Shawl will be meeting on **Tuesday**, **November 18 at 1:00 PM**. They will continue meeting on the third Tuesday of each month. Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

GRIEF GROUP: The next session will be November 19 at 1:30 p.m. We continue to read Francis Weller's *The Wild Edge of Sorrow: Rituals of Renewal and the Sacred work of Grief.* If you would like to participate in the grief group, contact Pastor Chris or the Church office.



It's time to have fun and play Pinochle! Everyone is invited to come on **Thursday**, **November 20 at 1:00 p.m.** There is a sign-up sheet for the gathering on the table across from the church office. Bring a snack to share. We're happy to teach if you are new to this card game.

**DEVOTIONALS:** The October-December edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.



#### FORMER ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO PREACH ON

**NOVEMBER 23:** The Rev. Elizabeth Hambrick-Stowe, mother of Anne Rankin, will be our guest preacher on November 23. Rev. Hambrick-Stowe, a graduate of Wellesley College, Pacific School of Religion, and the University of Baltimore Law School, served as the Associate Pastor of Trinity Church from 1989-1990.

#### INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT TEMPLE BETH EL

The East Petersburg Interfaith Council is planning a Thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 23 at 3:00 p.m. The service will take place at Zion Lutheran Church (corner of Broad and Lemon Streets). Cantor Carol Chesler from Temple Beth El will be the speaker. Rev. Sandy Morris and musicians from Trinity Church will participate in the service.

An offering will be received for the Hempfield Power Packs. Worshippers are also asked to bring the following items for the Power Packs.

16 oz peanut butter

Box of macaroni and cheese (no cups)

Canned fruit

Canned vegetable - corn or green beans

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE: We will have a Service of Word & Sacrament on Thanksgiving Eve (November 26) at 7 p.m. We are in need of two greeters and four ushers! Contact the church office if you are willing to help!

**2025 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS:** The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts and the forms on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please submit the forms to the church office.

THE OCTOBER-DECEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES are available on the table in the Narthex.

"I PROMISE" FORMS are still being accepted! We hope that you will submit the forms to help us plan for our ministry in 2026. Extra forms are available on the table across from the church office!

COPIES OF THE FALL NEWSLETTER OF THE U.C.C. HOMES are available on the table across from the church office!



## AMERICAN MUSIC THEATER CHRISTMAS SHOW

We have reserved seats for the American Music Theater Christmas Show on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30. The cost to see the show is Adults \$43, youth \$22. The youth ministry fund will be covering all youth! A sign-up sheet is available for you to reserve your seat. For more information, speak to Jeff Hackenberger.



Saturday, November 29

8:30 - 11:00 AM

We will prepare Trinity Church for the Advent/Christmas season on November 29. The gathering will begin with light breakfast at 8:30 a.m. After breakfast, we will decorate the church for the season. Our time will conclude with a brief service in the sanctuary.

All help in making this happen is greatly appreciated as we decorate our church for the season. Watch for more information in the weekly bulletins! Sign-up sheet for this program is on the table outside the office.

THE PARISH RESOURCE CENTER'S NEWSLETTER is available in the Narthex.

**LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION EVENTS** can be found in the November Parish Post. Talk to Anne Rankin for more information.

**HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CONCERT SERIES BROCHURES** are available in the Narthex.

#### SPECIAL COMMEMORATIONS IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Monday, November 17 Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died in 1231 This Hungarian princess lived her entire life in east-central Germany and is often called Elizabeth of Thuringia. Married to a duke, she gave large sums of money, including her dowry, for relief of the poor and sick. She founded hospitals, cared

for orphans, and used the royal food supplies to feed the hungry.

Though she had the support of her husband, her generosity and charity did not earn her friends within the royal court. At the death of her husband, she was driven out. She joined a Franciscan order and continued her charitable work, though she suffered abuse at the hands of her confessor and spiritual guide. Her lifetime of charity is particularly remarkable when one remembers that she died at the age of twenty-four. She founded two hospitals, and many more are named for her.



#### FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

#### Psalm 98

#### **SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians** 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, 8 and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. 9This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. 11For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. 12 Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

#### **GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19**

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, 6"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" 8And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

9"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

12"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; 15 for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17 You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. 19By your endurance you will gain your souls."