

Before
I formed
you
*in the
womb*
I knew
you

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520
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The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolynne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
8:00 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

Prayer: *Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.*

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. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. 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.*

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.**

Come, people of God, to the one in whom we trust.

Praise God who delivers us and rescues us.

God is our rock of refuge, our strong fortress.

God saves us amid wickedness and cruelty.

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has come to us in Christ, but we often live as if it made no difference.

Let us confess our sins before God in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 1:4-10

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word in the midst of the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalms 71: 1-6

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 4:21-30

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"The Revealing of God's Love" 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

With awe and wonder, O God, we dare to enlist all our efforts toward the realization of your realm. Where there is injustice, we would champion those oppressed and misunderstood. When some feel rejected, we reach out to accept them in Christ's name. May these offerings preach and teach and heal. 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.

Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history. We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit in our midst. We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and grace. With the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company of heaven, we glorify you:

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, for ever. Amen.

COMMUNICATION

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.

*(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 need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your 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.

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance, so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Guide your church in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Cultivate ministries and communities of compassion that bear witness to your enduring presence among us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to live in humility on the earth. Curb arrogance that leads to destruction of natural resources and disregard for future generations. Inspire the work of scientists who urge us to live in harmony with your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are the refuge of all who seek hope and freedom. Accompany immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who cross borders to find safety and opportunity. Embolden leaders to draft compassionate policies on behalf of migrants and those who assist them. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your grace falls upon young and old alike. Bless the gifts of children in this congregation and in this community. Give us humble hearts to follow their leadership. Inspire us with their laughter, their insight, and their curiosity. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. Comfort with your love all who are lonely, fearful, or brokenhearted. Sustain the hope of all those who suffer in body or spirit. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice.

May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. Amen.

CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers & Worship Aids are given in memory of 29th birthday of Dorothy B. Royer by her children **Joan M. Sleet, Donna M. Zirkel, and Rev. Harry G. Royer.**

Money Counters: Diane Rice, Karen Olley, George DeLong, Jodi Keller, Denise Pfeiffer

Building Trustee: Mike Wagner

Lector: Rev. Bob Bistline

Happy Birthday!

Monday – Samuel Minder, Shelley Wagner

Tuesday – Brad Miller

Saturday – Steven Archibald

Attendance for Sun., Jan. 23	8:00–13	10:30–67	TOTAL – 80
Sunday School	16		

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Monday 7:00 PM – Book Study (Google Meet)

 7:00 PM – SOT Choir

 7:45 PM – Bell Choir

Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon

 8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 8:00 AM – Eucharist

 9:00 AM – Sunday School

 10:30 AM – Eucharist

DEVOTIONALS: The January-March edition of *These Days* is available in the Narthex or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

THE FEBRUARY PARISH POST is available on both floors of the church building.

2022 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AIDS SPONSORS

Contact Carol in the church office to sign-up for chancel flowers and worship aids for 2022. We recently changed florists and so the new price for flowers will be \$60. The price for worship aids will remain at \$26. Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: **February 27**. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **February 27**.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Marvin Lehman and family, Bud McCarty, Danielle Huggins Holbein, Carole Connor, Donna Smoker (friend of Trinity), Mary Witmer, Steve Owens (son of Scott & Jane Owens), Mark & Mary Anne Ritter (friends of the Paulukows), Patrick & Mel (nephew of Marianne Gibble & his wife), the Martin family, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards), Hillary Brennan (mother of John Brennan), Ann Wolf (neighbor of George & Sandy DeLong), Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, David & Ann Potts (friends of Brenda & Harry Himelwright), Pete & Nora Petrosky (friends of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer), Lynn Dull, Hilma Slechta (mother of Mike Slechta), Chad & Paul Zirkel (sons of Donna Zirkel), Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright), Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards), Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio), Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer), Donna Denlinger, Cathy Hoshauer, Nancy Patton, Gary Reynolds (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Phyllis Zimmerman, Donna Zirkel, Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley), Jaimie & Aurora Commero (friends of Sarah Paulukow), Mark Zody (friend of Denise Huggins), Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards), John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law), Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach's brother), Scott Summers, Rev. Frank Lantz, Lainie Christensen, Sandra Englert (niece of Betty Tyndall), Charles & Betty Booraem, Betty Tyndall and family, Dorothy Fasnacht, Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law), Bob & Marlyn Wible, Lily Kilgore & family, Barry Moore (Donna & Ron Denlinger's brother-in-law), Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), Judy Wisniewski (sister of Chuck Husted), Elaine Sturgis (friend of Sue Husted), Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Doris Leaman, Kelsey (Minnich) and Tom Burgo, Judie Bistline, and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church).

MONEY BOXES: The children's Sunday School class has been learning about sharing God's gifts with others. They created boxes to collect coins to support a mission project. The last day will be February 28.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES: Christian Education classes will be held for all ages at 9:00 a.m. Here are the locations for the classes:

1. **Children's Class** will meet in the classroom on the first floor.
2. **Middle School/High School Class** will meet in the classroom on the second floor.
3. **The Combined Adult Class** will meet in Isenberg Hall.

There will be no Koinonia at this time!

Community Meal at First Reformed U.C.C., Lancaster

The community meals at First Reformed U.C.C. are starting again in 2022. They will continue to serve a grab and go meal. The diners and servers must be masked at all times.

Meals (cold or hot) can be prepared in the church kitchen. They are telling us to prepare for 60-70 people.

We are looking for some people to coordinate these meals. If you are interested or have more questions, contact Paula Dennes, Nancy Enders, or Pastor Rankin.

CHURCH COVENANT IN THE MIDST OF THE PANDEMIC

As an individual who attends Trinity United Church of Christ I covenant to work with my fellow church members, family and friends to keep our community safe and healthy.

I covenant to. . .

Wear a face mask as a symbol of love and care for others.

Maintain physical distancing when possible.

Clean up after myself in the spaces I use because germs are everywhere I go too!

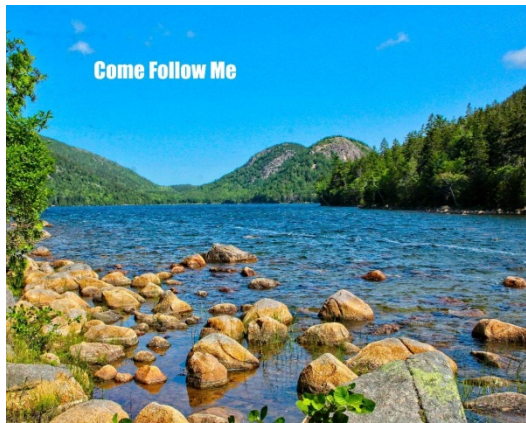
Honor and respect the sacredness of each person in this space and to stay home if I don't feel well or have been around someone who is waiting the results of a COVID test, knowing God is with us wherever we are, whether inside or outside the walls of the church.

Work together with my church family in creating a safe and healthy space to gather for worship, fellowship, or church activities as one body, united in God's love.

Acknowledge the hard work ahead, and the commitment to care for one another.

Together, we as the church, covenant to care and love one another in new and different ways as we:

- 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



The **COME FOLLOW ME Retreat** (written by Rev. Dr. Dave Bushnell, Pastor Emeritus of Hamilton Park U.C.C.) is an opportunity designed to have people experience an awareness and renewal of Christian Community. We are the Body of Christ called (and sometimes recalled) to incarnational ministry that seeks healing and wholeness for ALL of creation.

In his book, *Climate Church, Climate Change*, UCC pastor Jim Antal claims it is time “to repurpose the church and inspire humanity to engage a new moral era.” The COME FOLLOW ME Retreat provides a way for that repurposing to begin.

The retreat includes brief talks followed by small group sharing sessions. Each part of the retreat builds on the foundation of earlier sessions. The retreat introduces participants to the “long emergency” of climate change and begins to offer multiple ways for a church to do something about it. There are songs to sing, videos to watch, prayers and brief times of worship. The retreat ends with lots of suggestions of next steps that congregations can take in creation care.

Kate Raworth (in *Doughnut Economics*) writes “Ours is the first generation to deeply understand the damage we have been doing to our planetary household, and probably the last generation with the chance to do something transformative about it.”

COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS

THANK YOU for the experience of finding out more about creation care and what we can do to help. The format of the retreat was very good, the talks, the songs, the small groups for sharing (people always open up more that way). Now the question is how do we as the church find people who are passionate about caring for creation and engage them in our efforts to make a difference.

FOR ME, the emotional highpoint of the retreat was the sharing after the baptism talk when we shared deeply with each other and then remembered our own baptism.

“For anyone who loves this *good earth* God has made, who loves this *life* God has given and who loves *children*; this retreat provides a powerful way to become faithful disciples of the One who said, ‘Come, Follow Me.’

Contact Pastor Rankin if you are interested in attending the virtual retreat on Monday mornings (February 28-April 11) from 8-10 a.m.

Change Through Compassion Spring Workshop (Sponsored by Samaritan Center)

March 31, 2022 - May 26, 2022

Start:March 31, 2022 at 6:00 pm, **End:**May 26, 2022 at 8:30 pm

Venue:Online, **Phone Number:****717-560-9969, ext. 259**

The eight-week online Change Through Compassion Workshop provides participants with the opportunity to gain experience in mindfulness and self-compassion by deepening their own wisdom through an emphasis on practice.

Research on self-compassion and mindfulness show that these practices can boost your health and wellness by contributing to overall happiness, reducing anxiety and depression, and even helping you maintain beneficial lifestyle habits such as diet and exercise.

This workshop meets for eight weekly sessions on Thursdays from March 31 through May 26, with no class on May 5. Sessions run from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST. The Retreat Day is April 30 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. EST. The investment for the workshop is \$370. We recommend obtaining a copy of the “Mindful Self-Compassion Workbook” (2018) by Chris Germer, Ph.D., and Kristin Neff, Ph.D., to support your learning.

The Change Through Compassion offerings are founded on the evidence-based Mindful Self-Compassion program, developed by Germer and Neff. The UC San Diego Center for Mindfulness maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

This workshop meets the requirements for Mindful Self-Compassion Teacher Training and the Self-Compassion in Psychotherapy, or SCIP, program. Discount of \$25 for SCIP participants.

Samaritan Counseling Center is also able to offer 24 continuing education credits, or CEs, for mental health professionals at a cost of \$80. CEs for this program are provided by UC San Diego Center for Mindfulness, which is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The State Board of Pennsylvania accepts these CEs for licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional counselors, and licensed marriage & family therapists.

Have questions about the workshop or the SCIP discount? Contact Lesley Huff, a licensed psychologist and instructor of Change Through Compassion, at lhuff@scclanc.org or 717-560-9969, extension 259.

Parish Resource Center
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**Parish
Resource
Center**

Solutions For Churches & Communities

**Feb 26,
10-11:30am**



**Annie Browning
MDiv, LCSW**

**Using
Intuition
in Your Work**



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for worship volunteers at the in-person worship services:

Greeters/Ushers: To welcome worshippers at the door and to seat them in the sanctuary (10:30 a.m. service only)

Lectors: Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 8:00 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m. services.

Please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz if you are willing to volunteer.

JANUARY 30, 2022

(C)

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FIRST LESSON. Jeremiah 1:4-10

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

SECOND LESSON. 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

GOSPEL. Luke 4:21-30

Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

From the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible Copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

