

An opportunity to testify



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. Carolyn 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

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

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 are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not 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. 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.*

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.*

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT

Kristy Gizmot
Milagro House

(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.

God is ready to answer us, even before we call. God is eager to listen, though we are not ready to speak.

The hills sing together before God's presence. All of nature proclaims God's glory.

Be glad! Rejoice in all that God is creating. Welcome the new heaven and earth God has planned.

We worship God with great joy and delight. We welcome God's healing touch in our midst.

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.

Share in the inheritance of all the saints. Come to the table prepared for you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

God of mercy and forgiveness, we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, 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 THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Almighty God, whose presence reassures us in times of uncertainty and terror, we pray for wisdom and courage to discern your purposes in every time and place. Help us to stand for the best we know, even if that evokes derision or betrayal. Keep us from being led astray by competing voices that compromise your intentions for us and all people. May we who seek to be the church of Jesus Christ never become weary of doing what is right. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN/ RECOGNITION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

Marge Burger	1948, 74 years	Noreen Trostle	1966, 56 years
Doris Leaman	1948, 74 years	David Connor	1967, 55 years
Nancy Patton	1948, 74 years	Sandy DeLong	1967, 55 years
Dolly Barr	1951, 71 years	Lynn Dull	1967, 55 years
Pat Seachrist	1953, 69 years	Donna Geisler	1967, 55 years
Mary Witmer	1953, 69 years	Peter Rohrer	1967, 55 years
Dorothy Fasnacht	1954, 68 years	Ron Denlinger	1968, 54 years
Patsy Miller	1954, 68 years	Gregory Gruber	1968, 54 years
Doug Shaab	1955, 67 years	Janice Jenkins	1968, 54 years
Tobe Rohrer	1957, 64 years	Kenneth Jenkins	1968, 54 years
George DeLong	1958, 64 years	Jane Portser	1968, 54 years
Mary Lou Shaab	1958, 64 years	Carmen Richards	1968, 54 years
Jane Starr	1958, 64 years	Jerry Richards	1968, 54 years
Mary Ann Bradley	1959, 63 years	Gale Long	1969, 53 years
Roger Alan Bradley	1959, 63 years	Donna Wolf	1969, 53 years
Larry Lee Brown	1959, 63 years	Denise Gobrecht	1970, 52 years
Ellie Latsha	1962, 60 years	Rosemary Huber	1970, 52 years
George Latsha	1962, 60 years	Jodi Keller	1970, 52 years
Stan Seachrist	1962, 60 years	Cherie Cataldi	1970, 52 years
Mike Wagner	1962, 60 years	Diane Minnich	1970, 52 years
Sue Husted	1963, 59 years	JoAnn Mowrer	1970, 52 years
Don Miller	1963, 59 years	Eugene Hartenstine	1971, 51 years
David Krantz	1965, 57 years	Ronda Hartenstine	1971, 51 years
Donna Denlinger	1966, 56 years	Douglas Bradley	1972, 50 years
Janet Harriger	1966, 56 years	Dottie Schadt	1972, 50 years
Kathy McCarty	1966, 56 years		

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 65:17-25

Addressing the exiles who had returned to Jerusalem from Babylon, the prophet proclaims a vision of a future time of peace and prosperity. Though the returned exiles are experiencing hard times, God is about to do a new thing.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALTER A Hymn of Thanksgiving from the Prophet Isaiah(12:2-6)
Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, **for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.**

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: **Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. **Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian 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 moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and shall 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

Pastor Rankin

"Do Not Grow Weary When Doing The Right Thing"

(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; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in

the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere.

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.

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.

*(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.

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

Reviving God, keep your church active in its mission and ministry. Encourage elders, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders to risk boldly in their proclamation and fill them with wisdom and endurance for challenging times. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, as the northern hemisphere prepares for winter, make us mindful of the ordered beauty of your creation. Teach us to treasure cycles of rest and new life. Help us care for what you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Loving God, accompany all who make sacrifices for the sake of others. Safeguard first responders and active duty military personnel. Grant peace to veterans and heal any wounds in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Uniting God, unite this congregation in its shared mission and ministry for the sake of the gospel. Highlight ways we can better work together and give us patience to work through disagreement. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, your people cry out to you. Sustain doctors, nurses, and hospital personnel in their tireless work. Uphold mental health professionals and those in their care. May the sun of righteousness rise on all who are sick. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We give you thanks, shepherding God, that you have gathered your scattered flock again this day, feeding us richly with the food of Paradise. Accompany us as we serve you all the days of our lives, and gather us with the saints in the day of our death; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

★ **CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY** ★

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers & Worship Aids are given in memory of our father's (George N. Royer) birthday from his children **Joan M. Sleet, Donna R. Zirkel & Rev. Harry Royer.**

The Baptismal Fonts Flowers are given in loving memory of Donald D. Huber by his wife **Rosemary & daughters Diane, Phyllis & Sue.**

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

Building Trustee: Pat Sensenig **Lector:** Rev. Jack Esbenshade

Altar Guild: Nancy Enders **Koinonia:** Rankin Family

Happy Birthday!

Monday – Heather Harley Wednesday – Autumn Shenk
Thursday – Megan Good Friday – Stan Seachrist
Saturday – Donna Zirkel, Sean McKelvey

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Today	Following 2 nd Service – Congregational Mtg. & Luncheon 6:00 PM—Confirmation Class
Monday	7:00 PM – SOT Choir/8:15 PM-Bells 7:00 PM – Evangelism
Tuesday	7 AM-2 PM – Peanut Fellowship 1-3 PM – Prayer Shawl (Choir Room) 7:00 PM – Consistory
Wednesday	9:30 AM – Stewardship 7:00 PM – Christian Ed.
Friday	7:00 PM - Pinochle
Saturday	8:00 AM – Men's Breakfast 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA
Sunday	7:45 AM – Eucharist 9:00 AM – Sunday School 10:00 AM - Koinonia 10:30 AM – Eucharist Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, Guest Preacher

Attendance for Sun., November 6 7:45–18 10:30–75 TOTAL – 93
Sunday School Attendance 27

PRAYER CONCERNS: Larry Gerlach (brother of Dolly Barr), John Barr, Stan Seachrist, Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley, Hilma Slechta (mother of Mike Slechta), Donna Nesbitt (neighbor of John & Sarah Paulukow), Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel), Jane Portser, Tom Wolf (son of Donna Wolf), Judie Bistline, Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), David and Brenda Haverstick (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Jeannie & Bill Toy (sister & brother-in-law of Lainie Christensen) Carmen Richards, Donna Zirkel, Pat Seachrist, Don & Pat Miller, Sam Minder III, Marlin “Moe” Weaver (brother of Dottie Schadt), Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Dick & Tillie King (friends of Stan & Pat Seachrist), Robin McComsey (neighbor of Himelwrights), Rylan Brent (relative of Chuck & Sue Husted), Hank Fox, Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner), Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer), Bob Kilgore, the Lehman family, Judy Barr (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Joann Garvin, Rev. Phyllis Baum, Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer), Rev. Paul Eyer (former pastor of St. Luke’s), Danielle Huggins Holbein, Mary Witmer, the Martin family, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards), Monica Williams (friend of Sandy DeLong), Lynn Dull, 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), Nancy Patton, Mike & Judy Barr (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Phyllis Zimmerman, Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards), John Siebern (Bob Siever’s brother-in-law), Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach’s brother), 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, Barry Moore (Donna & Ron Denlinger’s brother-in-law), Judy Wisniewski (sister of Chuck Husted), Doris Leaman, and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church)

GUEST PREACHER NEXT SUNDAY: The Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, a member of Trinity Church and Conference Minister of the Penn Central Conference, will be the guest preacher at both services on November 20 (Christ the King Sunday).

MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST: The monthly breakfast will be held at the Family Fare Restaurant on November 19 at 8:00 a.m. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, November 15th in the Choir Room from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

PEANUT FELLOWSHIP has resumed from 7 AM to 2 PM with a potluck lunch. The peanuts will cost \$6 a pound. Please call Pat Seachrist (717-392-1427) to order peanuts. We need help with this project. Future dates for the Peanut Fellowship are: November 15 & 29. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

A promotional poster for a Pinochle event. The background is teal with several playing cards fanned out, including the Ace of Hearts, King of Hearts, and Queen of Hearts. A white rectangular box with a black border is centered, containing the word "PINOCHLE" in a large, blue, serif font, and "7:00 PM" in a smaller, blue, serif font below it. At the bottom, a yellow rectangular box contains the following text:

Dates: Friday Evenings
Nov.18, & Dec.16

Everyone is welcome!
All you have to do is sign up in the hallway outside the church office.
and bring a snack or drink to share. We're happy to teach players
new to Pinochle.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORMS are available in the narthex. The deadline to order poinsettias is **next Sunday!** If you have any questions, contact Dan Otthofer.



KOINONIA: We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship) every Sunday at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments and drinks/coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen coordinator. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes.

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

NEW NURSERY COORDINATOR: Betty Fogle has agreed to serve as our nursery coordinator. If you are interested in providing nursery care for children during worship, please contact Betty.

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.

NEW MEMBERS: Are you interested in joining Trinity U.C.C.? Do you know of someone looking for a church home? Please speak to Pastor Chris about joining our congregation.

2022 & 2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID

SPONSORS:

Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: January 1, & 8. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: November 27, December 11 & 25. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Contact Carol for 2022 dates and look for the charts in the narthex for 2023 dates.

ADVENT WORKSHOP ON November 26:



We are planning on doing indoor decorating and outside decorating and crafts for both kids & adults as we prepare Trinity Church for the Advent season.

All help in making this happen is greatly appreciated as we decorate our church for the season. Call the church office at 717-569-1632, use the sign-up sheet in the church hallway. We will start with breakfast at 8:30 AM.

Schedule: 8:30 AM – Breakfast in Isenberg Hall

9:30 AM - Decorate the church

11:00 AM- Devotional Service in the sanctuary

Sign-up sheet in church hallway outside office.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for worship volunteers on Sunday mornings. Contact the church office to sign-up!

Greeters: To welcome worshippers at the door for the second service.

Ushers: We have returned to passing the offering plate during the second service. We are in need of a few more ushers to complete our teams.

Lectors: Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m. services.

Highland Presbyterian Church
500 East Roseville Road
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601
717-569-2651
www.highlandpc.org



**Mennonite Children's Choir
of Lancaster**

Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 7:00 pm

MCCL creates exceptional music that represents the diversity of the global church across time. They serve over 100 children and youth representing 45 congregations, 35 schools, and 10 denominations. In addition to local concerts, they tour every summer.

Caleb Kreider is a member of the Mennonite Children's Choir

NOVEMBER 13, 2022

**(C) PROPER 28
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

SECOND LESSON. 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. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, 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. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. 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, he said, "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." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And 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. "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." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "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. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

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.

