

Daily Morning Message
St Paul United Church of Christ
5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247
Allen M Fluent, Pastor
Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Daily Lectionary Readings Psalm 100
 Zechariah 9:14-10:2
 Acts 20:17-38

Today's Scripture Verse: *But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course, and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's grace. (the words of Paul from Acts 20:24)*

What it means: It is commonly understood that the Book of the Acts of the Apostles serves as a second volume continuing the story told in the Gospel of Luke, whether written by the Gospel's author or by a close follower. Following the story of the church's origins in the first part of Acts, the book turns to describing the ministry of Paul, who is clearly the book's heroic figure. In today's verse, Paul is expressing his devotion to the Gospel, despite having an awareness that his own troubled life is approaching a painful end.

Our time of reflection: Dear God, may the words of Paul remind us that our faith is not a shield against the troubles we encounter, but that contentment comes from our authentic faithfulness to the things that make all life worthwhile.

