

*Daily Morning Message*  
*St Paul United Church of Christ*  
*5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247*  
*Allen M Fluent, Pastor*  
*Friday, August 27, 2021*

*Lectionary Readings*

*Psalm 15*  
*Song of Solomon 2:1-7*  
*James 1:1-9-16*

*Today's Scripture Verse:*

*No one, when tempted, should say, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. But one is tempted by one's own desire, being lured and enticed by it. (James 1:13-14)*

*What it means:*

People often attribute bad behavior to outside temptations, but James will have none of it. According to this epistle, temptation must be confronted inwardly, because it comes from within.

*Our time of reflection:*

When we find ourselves tempted to compromise our values because of things we see and want or because of fear or ambition, it may be time to take the advice of James and look within: how strong are our convictions and commitments to the truth? How deeply do we value the honest relationships that bring us peace?

