

Daily Morning Message
St Paul United Church of Christ
5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247
Allen M Fluent, Pastor
Friday, September 17, 2021

Lectionary Readings

Psalm 1

Proverbs 30:18-33

Romans 11:25-32

Today's Scripture Verse:

So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in . And so all Israel will be saved. (Romans 11:25-26a)

What it means:

As we all have learned, Jesus and his followers were all followers of the Jewish faith, and those who first gathered after his death were also all religious Jews. Paul was an apostle who reached out to the gentile world, and invited non-jews to become believers in Jesus. Paul sometimes expressed concern that many of his fellow Jews did not see the truth he felt he saw in the teachings of Jesus; but in this passage he made the interesting claim that the reason some of his fellow Jews did not accept Jesus as the Christ was that by God's design there needed to be room made for the gentiles to be brought into the community of salvation. He cautions his new Christian believers that they should not think themselves better or wiser or more deserving than those who do not believe, but be aware that their salvation, like the salvation of Israel, is by the grace of God.

Reflection:

Save us from arrogance, God, and remind us that your call comes to people in many different and mysterious ways.

