

Daily Morning Message
St Paul United Church of Christ
5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247
Allen M Fluent, Pastor
Thursday September 30, 2021

Lectionary Readings

Psalm 26
Job 2:11-3:26
Galatians 3:23-29

Today's Scripture Verse:

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28)

What it means:

Theologian Stephen Patterson, in his recent book, *The Forgotten Creed*, makes a strong case that this verse from Paul's letter to the Galatians is actually a creed of the early church that Paul is quoting to make his case that the gentiles should be allowed into the church without first becoming circumcised converts to Judaism. If so, this would be one of the earliest statements of faith in the early Christian movement – an affirmation that says the followers of Jesus will not give preferential treatment to people on the basis of nationality, economics or sex.

Reflection:

God we give thanks for the wisdom of the early church that calls us to remove the barriers, distinctions and exclusions among us that corrupt the fellowship of Christ.

