

*Daily Morning Message*

*St Paul United Church of Christ*

*5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247*

*Allen M Fluent, Pastor*

*Tuesday, September 15, 2020*

*Daily Lectionary Readings*      *Psalm 77*  
*Nehemiah 9:9-15*  
*Romans 14:13-15:2*

*Today's Scripture Verse:*      *Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another. (Romans 14:13)*

*What it means:*      The entire 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of Paul's letter to Rome is one of the most important ethical arguments in the New Testament. The specific issues of that day were around food offered to idols and respect for the Sabbath, but the broader principle is what is significant here. That broader principle is that "we do not live to ourselves or die to ourselves." Our personal freedom is something we cherish, but our actions should be guided by the effects they have on others. We live in community, and in community, freedom is important, but it is not our highest value. Love is.

*Our time of prayer:*      God, we pray that the freedom we enjoy for ourselves may never stand in the way of our willingness to make sacrifices for others.

