

**Readings for Sunday, September 10, 2017**  
**Woodbury United Methodist Church**

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do; for I don't do what I would like to do, but instead I do what I hate. <sup>16</sup> Since what I do is what I don't want to do, this shows that I agree that the Law is right. <sup>17</sup> So I am not really the one who does this thing; rather it is the sin that lives in me. <sup>18</sup> I know that good does not live in me—that is, in my human nature. For even though the desire to do good is in me, I am not able to do it. <sup>19</sup> I don't do the good I want to do; instead, I do the evil that I do not want to do. <sup>20</sup> If I do what I don't want to do, this means that I am no longer the one who does it; instead, it is the sin that lives in me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find that this law is at work: when I want to do what is good, what is evil is the only choice I have. <sup>22</sup> My inner being delights in the law of God. <sup>23</sup> But I see a different law at work in my body—a law that fights against the law which my mind approves of. It makes me a prisoner to the law of sin which is at work in my body. <sup>24</sup> What an unhappy man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is taking me to death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who does this through our Lord Jesus Christ!

This is the word of God. **Thanks be to God.**