

**Sunday, October 23, 2022 – Easter Hill United Methodist Church
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Bible Study
“Poured Out: Not Ashamed”**

Open with a word of prayer

Gathering Time (5-10 minutes)

In pairs or groups of three, tell a story about when you have heard from or about a missionary who lives in a different country.

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Context. This week’s reading records some of Paul’s last words as he awaits his fate in prison – an eloquent and moving testimony of the apostle looking back on his life, and looking forward to his hope.

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

What touches your heart, what do you hear in the scripture, what questions do you have, or what doesn’t make sense to you in the story?

Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 again

Some reflection questions – Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

- What is a libation, and why do you think Paul compares himself to that?
- Why do you think Paul’s relationship with God in Christ enabled him to live in such a way that he would describe it as “fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith”? What might it mean to “keep the faith”?
- What might it look like to fight “the good fight” today? How would this fight be more about others than about ourselves?
- How is what Paul says in this passage similar to what Jesus said in John 10:10?
- What might it look like to live a life “poured out” for God?
- What practices (Bible study, prayer, communal worship, fasting, journaling, etc.) could help you keep the faith?

Closing Reflection Question

How is this scripture calling you to change, to see, to be or what might it be calling you to do?

Prayer (10 minutes). Share prayer requests and respond appropriately.

Sending Forth (2 minutes). After all, have shared, end by praying the following or a similar prayer:

God of our fathers and mothers in the faith, we give you thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. May their lives, which pointed us deeper in our relationship with you, serve as a source of strength and abundance. Guide us where we might serve as mentors to others. **Amen.**

And now we pray The Lord's Prayer....

Our Father who art in Heaven
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.