

St. Paul's

United Church of Christ
Evansville, Indiana

March 28, 2021

PALM SUNDAY RITE OF CONFIRMATION

WELCOME

Rev. Mary Hurley

PRELUDE

Crown Him with Many Crowns
(Elvey)

Rick Hobbs

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION (in unison)

God of salvation, our Lord entered his passion to raise us to life. In this holiest of weeks, help to walk the way of the cross, that we may be raised in a resurrection like his and dwell forever in you, Eternal God, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
(Truro from *Psalmodia Evangelica*)

Verses 1, 2, 6

TIME OF PRAYER

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

We confess that we have sinned, and although we would like to deny it, we have forsaken you. We are horrified for the suffering we cause – to you, ourselves,

Questions of the Candidates

Affirmation of Faith (Congregational response offset and in **bold** print)

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

I believe in God.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Prayer (in unison)

Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, you in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

Act of Confirmation

Prayer of Confirmation (in unison)

We rejoice, O merciful God, with these people in the gift of the Holy Spirit, and in the Spirit's power to awaken us to new truth and to inspire us to venture into fullness of life.

We give thanks that they have been moved to affirm their baptism. Help them to live not for themselves but for Christ and those whom Christ loves. Keep them

steady and abounding in hope, never giving up, pressing toward the goal of life with You in Jesus Christ.

Address to the Confirmands

Questions of Participation

Welcome

Pastor Mary: Let us, the members of St. Paul's UCC express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

Congregation: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Greeting of Christian Love

CLOSING SONG *If We Are the Body*
(Hall)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *O God, Beyond All Praising*
(Holst)

Rick Hobbs

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