

St. Paul's

United Church of Christ
Evansville, Indiana

March 7, 2021
Online Worship
Third Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

Rev. Mary Hurley

PRELUDE

Beneath the Cross of Jesus
(Frederick Charles Maker)

Rick Hobbs

CALL TO WORSHIP (Congregational response is offset and in **bold** print)

The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world:

But to us it is the power of God!

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.

INVOCATION (in unison)

Gracious God, whose power is made perfect in weakness, whose wisdom appears as foolishness in this world, we thank you for the scandal of the cross. In Jesus Christ, you overturn all our usual ways of behaving and believing. You scatter our false notions of discipleship as easily as coins are spilled from a box. You correct our notions of piety and order fierce passion. Do not let your church become content or contained as an institution. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life as a community so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world. With fear and joy we ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

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SERMON

"When You Can't Make Anyone Happy"

Rev. Mary Hurley

HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

concluding with **The Lord's Prayer**

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

It Is Well With My Soul
(Philip Paul Bliss)

Rick Hobbs

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2227 West Michigan Street
Evansville, Indiana 47712**