

## **Dear Confirmands**

**Luke 19: 28-40**



**Confirmation**

*Dear Confirmands,*

*Today is your day and we are so glad to be a part of it. Remember it. Remember who you are and all those gathered around you. Remember today and the journey you have chosen to step into; the story of Holy Week. Not everyone makes this choice...and that's ok. There will be other opportunities for those folks to raise their palms as members of this church. We'll look forward to the day they join the parade of people who celebrate*

*Jesus' coming as part of this community. Until that time, your life will be a model of what can be if somewhere down this road they change their minds, or feel more ready to fully participate in the life of this church. We'll keep on loving them and inviting them into this model of a week that will play through your life this morning and every morning after.*

*The week begins with the joy we have in receiving you into Jesus' family as people who have chosen to minister among us. You have picked up your palms and joined the great crowd of witnesses from BCC who shout HOSANNA! as they sing...*

Hosanna, Hosanna!

*Dear Confirmands...During our time in preparing for today, we shared about parts of our lives that are important to us. As you practice yoga and play lacrosse, as you run races and go out of your comfort zone to meet new people, you will find Jesus beside you: cheering, coaching, healing, bringing challenge, bringing peace, loving you whether you win or lose...whether you are the best or really trying hard.*

*Like friends who gathered around Jesus before you, you will find these "upper room" times to be a comfort and a balm that calls you to be more than you can begin to imagine today....*

## An Upper Room

*Dear Confirmands...Cherish those times in the upper room with Jesus, because it is this fellowship that will nag at your soul when the occasions arise that you betray Jesus. Like all of us in this room, you will make mistakes...painful mistakes...life changing mistakes. When you do, you will learn the love God has for you as Jesus bends down and prays for you..he will choose to give his life for you, for the mistakes you make, the hearts you break, the stuff you take, the times you fake. He will be there for you when your heart aches, your world shakes and your faith breaks. (And I'm sorry, but that's as close to rapping as I can muster...)*

*Allow yourself a moment to hear his prayer and recognize that this sacrifice of his life is offered out of a love for you, for me, for everyone around you It really is a love that transcends our complete understanding...*

3. "It Is Enough"- by Mendelssohn

4. "Pie Jesu"- by Andrew Lloyd Webber

*Dear Confirmands... This Jesus that you have chosen for yourselves today is pretty amazing. And just as he did 2000 years ago, his counterpart to your promise is forever. He will walk with you on all your paths. He will guide you when you ask for help. He will welcome you to that lovely place he has prepared for all His people. It is not for now that you will receive it in whole, but it waits. Be patient, be active and be watchful. The lovely dwelling place of God will be yours...*

5. "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" by Mendelssohn

*Dear Confirmands... May you be blessed with an awareness of Jesus' love for you today and always. I look forward to the next leg of our journey together in Jesus' name. We love you. Amen.*