

Pastor Letter 1/13/21

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany, as we heard this past Sunday, is a time when we celebrate the coming of the Magi and what they teach us. The Magi came to Jesus and presented his family with gifts. You could say that this was Jesus' baby shower. Baby showers are not only celebrating the coming of a new life into the world, but also to help the mother and/or extended family receive gifts that will help them with the care of the child. Unfortunately, there are many mothers, often single and young in our area, who never get a baby shower. Fortunately, there is Angel's Closet, an organization we have partnered with to support these new mothers. In honor of Jesus' baby shower, during the season of Epiphany, we are collecting new or gently used baby clothes, blankets, bibs, diapers, etc. that can be given to local new mothers in need. Items can be brought into the church on Sunday mornings or during the week during office hours. If you would like, you could also send a check and members of the mission committee will use it to purchase items. If you are sending a check, just note in the memo line for Angel's closet collection.

This Sunday is the second Sunday in Epiphany and an opportunity to bring those gifts in. It is also an opportunity to worship Jesus, the baby whose life, death and resurrection gave us our salvation and calls us to be His disciple. We, again, continue with the hybrid in-person worship. I would remind you that if you are worshipping in person to wear a mask, keep safe distances and wait to be dismissed by an usher. If you are worshipping at home, I would encourage you to set up a worship area. Maybe bring a candle and light it, or whatever helps the space feel more sacred. Let us come together again this week to worship this amazing Christ and bring our gifts for mothers in need as Jesus calls us to do as His disciples.

In His peace,

Pastor Nicki

YouTube live and video recordings <https://www.espresbyterian.com/worship/> or <https://www.youtube.com/user/ESPresbyterian>

click on the link below near the time the service begins at 10:00am to watch the live stream <https://www.facebook.com/espresbyterian/>

Additionally, bulletins and an online hymnal have been put on the website and can be found at <https://www.espresbyterian.com/worship/sunday-bulletin/>

Ways to give- mail or drop of check/cash through no contact mail slot in office window. Drop off envelope in offering plates before or after worship services. Donate on our website by going to the home page at <https://www.espresbyterian.com/> and clicking on the Donate button in the upper right corner.