

Pastor Letter 2/3/21

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In our Book of Confessions, the first question in the Westminster shorter catechism is a deep-rooted ideal we hold as Presbyterians. The question asks “what is the chief end of man?” To which the answer is “to glorify God and enjoy him forever.” Growing up, my grandmother often reminded me of a verse from Colossians that relates to this concept. It says that whatever you do, do it as if you were doing it for the Lord, not humans. (Colossians 3:23 my translation) I try to remind my kids that it is important to do all our work well, as if we were doing it for God. I think that every time I say this, I am speaking a little to myself. It is easy to be worried about what others may think or not want to put our full self into something. Times are changing and we have no control of what the future will be like for the church universal and in individual churches. However, if we keep seeking to do everything we do in order to glorify God and not to please humans, then we can rest assured God is working in and through us so we can enjoy God forever.

Even when we worship, wherever that may be, we can seek to glorify God and not humans. I know of one member who loves to sing as loud as she can while worshiping from home. As we continue in this phased hybrid worship, and we don't know what worship will look like as weeks go on, we continue seeking to glorify God in whatever worship form we find ourselves. This week is the continued option to worship remotely or in person. The same guidelines are in place that have been in place regarding social distancing and facemasks. As some of you now are getting the vaccine please remember that we still must wear masks and keep distances until the way is clear. This Sunday's worship will include the Lord's supper, so I would invite you to do as we have been doing and bringing along your communion elements to your worship space. As we gather for worship this week may we remember that as part of worship we seek to glorify God.

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. Designate where you would like the money to go by using the note section.