

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“God is bigger than the boogie man.” Lyrics to an old Veggie Tales song that came to mind as I reflected on the greatness of God this morning. You see, this week I spoke with a member who felt the sermon was speaking directly to their lives. Then another day I spoke with another congregant who claimed the same. I can tell you that many pastors hear this regularly. That is the amazing thing about how God uses scriptures and sermons to speak to all of us in our times and our situations. I will let you in on another secret...pastors often are also moved by the sermons as they are writing them. My point is that God is at work in many ways that we often don't even notice. Or we limit our thinking to believe God's words in any form, be it in scriptures, sermons and our own actions, effect only our small circle. It is often hard for us to see where God is at work in what is going on in our world with the pandemic, increasing divisiveness in our society, and civil unrest regarding our justice system. However, rest assured God's word is at work, even when we may not notice.

God continues to be at work in worship at ESPC as we proceed with the sermon series on forgiveness, even in ways we don't know. This week we will proceed as we have been with in-person worship phase 1 protocols. We continue to also stream live on Facebook and YouTube for those who can and desire to remain worshipping remotely. Additionally, this week we will be communing together in the Lord's supper. I would invite you to bring along your own communion elements to whatever space you choose to worship. To do so, gather the “bread” which can be a slice of ordinary bread, a roll, cracker, cookie, goldfish cracker, etc. anything will do. Don't feel the need to go out and purchase anything, just use whatever food item you have on hand. Also, gather the “fruit of the vine” which can be juice, wine, water, or any beverage you have on hand. Let us come together in these new ways of worship and see how God is bigger than we could ever imagine.

In His Peace,

Pastor Nicki

Some helpful links...

Click on the link below near the time the service begins at 10:00am to watch the live stream

<https://www.facebook.com/espresbyterian/>

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

<https://www.youtube.com/user/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/>