



An Advent Wrapped in Love

By Karen Peter

I called the church custodian's wife at home because she knew where everything in the church was, and I needed to borrow the manger for a photo op with our first grandchild, even though it was nowhere near Christmas. She remembered that his father, our oldest son, lay in that same manger three decades earlier and figured we were preparing for yet another family greeting card. Unlike his father, Jace had no intention of lying quietly and surveying the scene. He promptly kicked off his "swaddling cloths" and began playing with his toes. After being dismayed that this was not going to be a peaceful scene, I became



caught up in our family baby's delight. The picture still brings a smile to my face.

If there is a seemingly never-ending pandemic followed by diagnoses of serious illness and treatment and more quarantine, cutting to the joy, wonder and fun must be God's reminder to lighten up. Accept the well wishes and prayers of faith, family and friends and welcome the love that makes moments special and life worthwhile. Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Scripture: Luke 2: 4-7

Prayer: Advent is preparation for celebration. May it be so. Amen.

