



*'Lord, when did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?
When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'*

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.'

Scripture has been fulfilled right here at LAC+USC Medical Center!

On Tuesday December 17, 2019, volunteers from around Los Angeles County, including Rev. Sue Fisher, Hagar Benitez, Donna and Rick Huff, joined the Spiritual Care Team at LAC+USC Medical Center and shared blankets with over 500 patients. Each of the blankets was handmade with love and prayer, many of them by knitters, crochet-ers and quilters from Presbyterian churches, including Culver City, Palisades, La Verne Heights, St. Peters by the Sea and Covenant.

We went in teams of three to give the gift of a handmade blanket to each person in the hospital that day. Entering the patients' rooms, blankets in our arms, we were met with smiles and tears of gratitude. In that moment, we didn't know the name of the person who invested time, energy and prayer into the creation of the blanket. In the same way, when we gave the blankets, the volunteer team didn't know

the patients' name or the details of their illness or the struggles they face. But, when we spread the blanket across their bed, it becomes a sacred transaction, an opportunity for us to join together and care for our siblings in the human family, an opportunity for us to celebrate that our God, in the person of Jesus, has drawn near and we have seen our Lord!

May the blessings of comfort and health be with you in 2020

If you knit, crochet, quilt or sew we welcome your donations for 2020! Blankets need to be handmade (knit, crocheted, quilted or sewn) and prayed over - and at least 36"x36".

– Rev. Elizabeth Gibbs Zehnder serves as Presbyterian staff chaplain at LAC+USC Medical Center. The Presbyterian Chaplaincy is made possible through the Consortium funded by the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii, the Presbyteries of the Los Ranchos, Pacific, San Fernando and San Gabriel (thanks to San Marino Community Church).



To find out more about this ministry and how you can be involved, please contact her at 123EGZ@gmail.com.