



Jordan & Niki Shirkman

Cru | Ljubljana, Slovenia

January 29, 2017

We didn't expect a regular checkup, even on Niki's due date, to lead to the arrival of our son nine hours later. Everett Pierce made his debut right on time on December 18.

God's grace was evident throughout the process. We chose to deliver at a hospital about a half hour away, where Raegan was born as well. Our drive there went smoothly—the roads were clear, the sun was shining, and Niki wasn't yet in labor as we just headed to her checkup. During the checkup the midwife told us, to our surprise, that things were further along than we expected. She encouraged Niki to go on a walk for a couple hours and to come back and see if anything progressed.

After walking countless laps inside a tiny shopping center, we headed back to the hospital and found out that things had indeed moved along. Just six hours later at 10:04pm, Everett was born healthy and without any complications, weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce and 21 ¼ inches long. He is growing quickly and Niki is healing well.

Raegan is a proud and helpful big sister and has adjusted to life as the older sibling better than we could have hoped. She loves helping take care of "Baby Ev" and his arrival has made her seem so much older and mature already. She's talking a lot now and forming sentences, and enjoys telling her brother when to wake up and when to go to sleep.

Everett's name means brave (as a wild boar) and we pray he would bravely live to honor the Lord, stand up for the weak, and to do what is right, especially when it is difficult. We chose Pierce as a reference to the piercing of Jesus for our sakes in Isaiah 53:5:

*"But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed."*

We thank God for the precious gift of our son, for the kind and skilled doctors and midwives who cared for us in Slovenia, and for your prayers and support as we live out the Lord's call for us to reach Slovenes with the gospel.

Grateful to God for you,

Jordan + Niki



Prayers

- o Pray the Lord would continue to use our family to be a blessing to Slovenes and to continue impacting students for Christ.

Praise

- o Praise God for the healthy arrival of Everett and for grace in adjusting to life as a family of four.

Contact Us

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