Whoever Welcomes a Child:
"Whoever welcomes a child like this in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:36-37

Child 3 ¾ inches tall.

Materials:
- Size 10 crochet cotton for doll body. I prefer a 'stiff' size 10 like Aunt Lydia's
- Size 6 steel crochet hook for doll, size 3 steel hook for the wig cap.
- Small amount of fiberfill or wool stuffing

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- Embroidery floss for eyes, mouth, and hair (hair can also be made with size 10 crochet cotton, or laceweight or fingering weight yarn)

**Gauge:** 9sc = 1 inch with size 6 steel hook

This pattern includes instructions for making this tiny doll, ideas for hairstyles, undies, a dress and rompers, and two hats. Make your dolls in all the colors of the rainbow, and remember that all children deserve our love and protection.

This little ami is made in two pieces; the body and the head. The body is worked seamlessly, with the arms crocheted to the body. The head is made separately and jointed to the neck stub of the body. The arms are crocheted first, then the body is worked from the legs up. When you get to the chest, the arms are crocheted to the body and all is worked as one piece.

I recommend using wool roving to stuff the dolls; it is more expensive that polyfill, but these are such tiny dolls that a little bit of stuffing will go a long way. Wool roving can be purchased in a gradient of colors from dark to light, so it is especially good when stuffing dark skinned dolls. Weir craft carries undyed wool roving; you can find it at this link:


**Arms:** worked in the round with no join. Do not stuff the arms.

1: Ch2, seven sc in the second ch from the hook.

2-10: Sc in each sc around. 7 sc

11: Two sc in the first sc, sc in the remaining six sc. Fasten off. Use the tail at the beginning of the arm to close any hole in the tip of the arm; bury this tail in the bottom of the arm. 8 sc.

**Legs:** worked in the round with no join. Stuff the leg lightly.

*On the right, arms and legs; on the left, legs crocheted together and the first two rows of the torso.*

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1: Ch2, eight sc in the second ch from the hook. 8sc.
2-12: Sc in each sc around. 8sc.
13: Sc in each sc around to the last sc, two sc in the last sc. At the end of the first leg, fasten off, use the beginning tail to close any hole at the bottom of the leg, then bury the tail in the leg. Stuff the leg. At the end of the second leg, do NOT fasten off; chain three, then join with a sc to the first leg. Close the hole at the bottom of the second leg, then stuff the second leg.

Sc in the remaining eight sc of the first leg, sc in the three ch, then sc in each sc of the second leg. Sc in the the three chain. Legs are now joined. 24 sc. Do NOT fasten off. **Note: count your stitches carefully as it is easy to lose a stitch when joining the legs. Use a stitch marker to keep track of where you begin.**

From the left, torso worked through round 7; arms joined to torso in the next two images; neck stub and head in the last two images.

**Torso:** worked in the round with no join. Mark your place with a stitch marker as you work around. Count the stitches carefully, as it can be hard to see them at this small scale.
1: Sc in each sc around. 24 sc.
2: Sc in each sc round. 24 sc.
3: (Sc in the next four sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 20 sc.
4: (Sc in the next three sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 16 sc.
5-7: Sc in each sc around. 16 sc. At the end of round 7 you should be at the back, closer to the right side of the doll (with the back facing you).
8: Depending where you are at the back of the doll, sc until you reach the next side of the doll (for me it was three stitches), flatten the first arm and stitch through the arm and the body for four stitches, sc in the next four sts, flatten the second arm and stitch through the arm and the body for four stitches, then sc in the remaining sts of this round (for me it was one stitch). 16sc. Stuff the body firmly.
9: (Sc in the next two sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 12 sc.
10: (Sc in the next two sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 9 sc.
11-15: Sc in each sc around. 9sc. This creates the neck stub. Stuff the chest and neck stub firmly.
16: (Sc next two sc tog) around and finish off.
Head: There are several pictures of making the head, and also embroidering the face.

The image above illustrates how the first five rounds of the head are crocheted. You begin with 8sc crocheted in a row, then join this row to create the neck opening. You will stuff the head through this opening, and also insert the neck stub into it for the move-able head.

1: Ch9, then work sc in the second ch from the hook and each ch across. 8 sc.
2: You have a short length of single crochet stitches. Make a ring out of this short length and join it by working two sc into the first sc of the row 1. Work two sc in each sc around. 16sc.
3: 2sc in each sc around. 32sc
4-16: Sc in each sc around. 32 sc. **Note: you may work rounds 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 in a color close to your hair color, so the scalp is less likely to show through.**
17: (Sc the next two sc tog) around. 16 sc
18: (Sc the next two sc tog) around. 8 sc
19: (Sc the next two sc tog) around, fasten off.

This image shows the head in progress, and stuffing the head with a small hemostat. You want the head to be firm and round without stretching the stitches.

Although it is a small opening, you can indeed stuff the head through the neck opening. Do so with hemostats and a small stuffing tool. Make the head a nice, round, solid ball, and work an opening up into the neck that the neck stub will fit into.
From the left, neck opening through which the head is stuffed and jointed to the neckstub; jointing thread through the head and neck stub, and finished doll body!

Assembly:

To attach the head, thread a long embroidery needle with double strand of craft thread. Insert the needle at the top of the head and bring it out through the neck along the side of the head, making sure not to catch any of the head stitches. Run the needle through the base of the neck stub, then back into the head at the neck opening and out the top of the head. Gently pull the neck stub into the head and seat it down on the neck. Tie off the craft thread at the top of the head with a double knot and bury the ends in the head. **Note: This may be a tight fit, so work and pull gently until the neck stub is well up into the head.**

Facial features.

You can use small beads or button for eyes, or embroider them as I did. To embroider the face, I suggest you purchase a Frixion erasable pen. It makes a dark mark on your work, but disappears with the application of a hot iron.

This image illustrates placing the eyes, marking the eyes, and embroidering the eyes.
I mark the eye placement with two black glass head pins. I like my eyes located at the midpoint of the face. The eyes are embroidered over two rows. Mark the eye shape with the Frixion pen around the location of your glass head pins. Mark a line defining the top of the eye and the outside corner of the eye, and also the eyebrow.

Embroider the eye color first, over two rows of stitches and roughly three sc stitches wide using satin stitch. I used three strands of embroidery floss for the eye color, and two strands for the rest of the embroidery work.

After the eye color is done, embroider the pupil (the black part) over the eye color part, leaving eye color showing at the sides and bottom of the eye. With white, embroider one or two stitches on either side and under the eye, and take a tiny stitch for eyelight at the side of each pupil.

With dark brown or black, embroider the line defining the top and outer corner of the eye with straight stitches. Embroider the eyebrows with dark brown straight stitch.

After the embroidery is complete, run a warm iron over the face lightly until any visible marking lines disappear.

Blush the cheeks with crayon. Rub it on the face, then use a soft cotton cloth to rub the color into the stitches.

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Hair:

For these dolls, I used a rooting method directly into the head of the doll. If you don't want the scalp to show at all, work the last four rounds (15 thru 19) in a color close to your hair color.

I used five different yarns on these five dolls (that is, one type of yarn for each doll): size10 crochet cotton, two laceweight yarns, one fingering weight yarn, and one fine sock yarn. Trial and error revealed that the best looking hair was done as the images below show:

Hook strands of yarn in every stitch for the first five rounds from the top of the head, then work a row of strands down one side of the head for eight rows (middle picture), then in each row across the bottom of the scalp (third picture), then back up to the top of the hair. Angle the sides away from the face as you work toward to the bottom row. Even though this leaves a bare spot at the back, the hair is thick enough from the first five rows to cover this, and this doesn't leave you with a mountain of hair to deal with. It is still pretty thick, but not unmanageable. Note: if the bald spot bothers you, take your hair yarn and make several long stitches across the spot to cover it...it most definitely will not show through, and adds no more volume to the doll's hair.

The rooting method I used was found by Joyce on Facebook, and is absolutely brilliant. I highly suggest checking out this video to see how she does this; log into your Facebook account before clicking on the video. It makes it look like the hair is rooted right into the scalp, and leaves no visible knot:

https://www.facebook.com/crochetxknitting/videos/1430747916996728/

This is in Russian, but you don't need the language to see what she does, which is brilliant...did I say this was brilliant?

It took me about 100 strands to cover the hair as shown in the images above; your yardage may vary :-) I wrapped the strands around my Kindle, which is about 7 inches long, then cut across one end.

Once the hair is in place, you can style it in a variety of ways. If you want to give your doll braids, you can criss-cross a few strand at the back to cover the bare spot (or if you covered the bare spot with yarn,

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no need to do this), then braid the hair on either side like you normally would.

Pull a few strands to the front of the doll's face and cut them for bangs, or embroider bangs on the doll before rooting the strands in place.

**Wig Caps:**

If you prefer you can make a wig cap.

I usually make a wig cap when making hair for crochet dolls. This way your scalp will never show through the strands of hair, and it is a great base for just about any hairstyle.

The number of stitches and rounds required for your cap will depend on the thread or yarn you choose. I always start a cap with eight sc worked in the round. I expand this working in the round by 16, 24, 32 stitches and check the fit on the doll's head. If 32 stitches don't look wide enough, go to 36 or 40 stitches, then work evenly until the cap covers the head with a hairline you like.

Use a hook two or three sizes larger than the one you used for the body. I used a size 3 steel hook for the wig cap with embroidery floss.

To make crocheting with embroidery floss easier, wrap the skein of floss around a floss bobbin. This could be a piece of cardboard, a clothespeg, an empty crochet cotton reel, or an empty thread reel.

Work in the front loops only, leaving the back loop of each stitch free. You can hook your hair strands into these free loops after the wig cap is finished and sewn to the head.

Example: using embroidery floss for the wig cap and hair. Work the entire wig cap in the Front Loops Only. One skein of floss should be sufficient to make the wig cap, but if not, tie on another skein to finish.

1: Ch2, eight sc in the second ch fro the hook. 8sc
2: Two sc in each sc around. 16sc
3: (Sc in the next st, two sc in the next st) around. 24sc
4: (Sc in the next two sts, two sc in the next st) around. 32 sc
5-9: Sc in each sc around. 32 sc. Leave a long tail to sew the cap to the head.

Sew the cap to the head with the free loops out. For long full coverage hair, cut 140 strands of embroidery floss 9 inches long. This will require about six more skeins of floss.

Hook your hair strands beginning with the last row of the wig cap and working toward the beginning of the cap.

Begin by hooking one strand around each stitch on the last round of the wig cap. On the second round, hook every other stitch at the back and sides, then in every stitch across the top of the cap. On the third through sixth or seventh row, hook every other stitch, and on the remaining rows (you are working...
toward the beginning point of the wig cap) hook a strand in every third stitch.

After all the strands are hooked in place, gently comb out the strands, first with your fingers, then with a comb. You want to separate the plies of embroidery floss; this will make it looks more like hair. Then trim your girls hair and you're done!

Other styles are possible with the wig cap. You can create pigtails or ponytails, crochet curls, add bangs, whatever you imagine you can make :-)

*Image from Minnow Micro Ami, which is similar to Welcome Child. This pattern is also available on my blog.*
Tiny clothing:

Materials:
- Size 20 crochet cotton or size 8 perle cotton
- Size 9 steel crochet hook
- Tiny pearls (3 or 4 mm) or 3/16 inch buttons

Gauge: 12sc = 1 inch

Stitches:
BLO = Back Loop Only

3Dc Cluster = Work three dc in the same stitch, leaving the last loop of each dc on the hook until the last dc, then pull through all four loops on the hook.

Crossed Double Crochet = Skip the first st, dc in the next st, then double crochet in the skipped stitch. One crossed double crochet made.

One Rib = two sc rows worked in the back loop only.
**Tiny undies:** worked as one piece from the front down to the crotch, then up to the back...it will look sort of like a diaper. The final row joins the front to the back.

1: Ch13, sc in the second ch from the hook and each ch across, ch1, turn. 12Sc

2: Skip the first sc, sc in the next nine sc, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 10Sc

3: Skip the first sc, sc in the next seven sc, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 8Sc

4: Skip the first sc, sc in the next five sc, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 6Sc

5: Skip the first sc, sc in the next three sc, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 4Sc

6: Skip the first sc, sc in the next sc, skip the next sc, sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 2Sc

7-9: Sc in each sc across, ch1, turn. 2Sc

10: Two sc in the first sc, two sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 4Sc

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11: Two sc in the first sc, sc in the next two sc, two sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 6Sc
12: Two sc in the first sc, sc in the next four sc, two sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 8Sc
13: Two sc in the first sc, sc in the next six sc, two sc in the last sc, ch1, turn. 10Sc
14: Two sc in the first sc, sc in the next eight sc, two sc in the last sc, ch1, do NOT turn. 12Sc
15: Sc in the first sc of the front of the undies; sc in the next 11 sc, ch1, sc in the first sc of the back of
the undies, sc in the next 10sc, sl st in the last sc and fasten off.

Use the beginning and end tails to neaten the sides of the undies and you are done!
**Tiny Puff Sleeve Dress:** Worked from the neck down; leave a long tail to make a ch4 buttonhole loop.

1: Ch25, sc in the second ch from the hook and each ch across, ch1, turn. 24Sc
2: Sc in the first two sc, two sc in the next sc (3dc cluster in each of the next six sc), two sc in the next sc, sc in the next four sc, 2sc in the next sc, (3dc cluster in each of the next six sc) two sc in the next sc, sc in the last two sc. Ch1, turn. 12 3dc clusters, 16sc.
3: Sc in the first four sc, ch4, skip the next six dc clusters, sc in the next eight sc, ch4, skip the next six dc clusters, sc in the last four sc. Ch1, turn. 16Sc, 8ch.
4: Sc in each sc and ch across, ch1, turn. 24sc.

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5: (Sc in the first three sts, two sc in the next st) across, ch1, turn. 30 sc
6: Sc in each sc across, ch1, turn.
7: (Sc in the first two sts, two sc in the next st) across, ch1, turn. 40 sc
8: Sc in each sc across, join, ch1, turn. 40 sc
9-15: Sc in each sc across, join, ch1, turn. At the end of round 15, change to contrast color for hem trim.
16: Working in the BLO, [(sc, 2dc) in the first st, skip the next st] around, finish off.

If you like, a neck trim can be worked in contrasting color by working (sl st, ch1) in the first row at the neck edge.

With the long beginning tail, ch4, sl st in the third row and fasten off. Sew a button opposite the buttonhole loop. Done!

**Tiny Rompers:** Worked from the neck down; leave a long tail to make a ch4 buttonhole loop.
1: Ch25, sc in the second ch from the hook and each ch across, ch1, turn. 24 sc
2: Sc in the first two sc, two sc in the next sc (2dc in each of the next six sc), two sc in the next sc, sc in the next four sc, 2sc in the next sc, (2dc in each of the next six sc) two sc in the next sc, sc in the last two sc. Ch1, turn. 24Dc, 16 sc.
3: Sc in the first four sc, ch4, skip the next 12 dc, sc in the next eight sc, ch4, skip the next 12 dc, sc in the last four sc. Ch1, turn. 16Sc, 8 ch.
4: Sc in each sc and ch across, ch1, turn. 24 sc.
5: (Sc in the first three sts, two sc in the next st) across, ch1, turn. 30 sc
6-8: Sc in each sc across, ch1, turn. At the end of row 8, join, ch1, turn.
9-11: Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn. At the end of round 11, join, ch3, turn.
Leg dividing row
12: Skip the first 15 sc, sl st into the next sc, ch1, sc in the same st as ch1 and the next fourteen sc, sc the next three chain together, join to the first sc, ch1, turn. 16 sc
13-17: Sc in each sc around, join, ch1, turn. 16Sc At the end of round 17 finish off.
Join yarn in the first unworked st of round 11 and work the second leg as the first.
Optional trim. Around the neck, the sleeves, and/or the bottom of the legs work (sl st, ch1) in a contrasting color.

With the long beginning tail make a ch4 buttonhole loop; sew a tiny button or pearl opposite and you are done!

You can interchange the bodices of the rompers and the puff sleeve dress; you can work the bodice in one color, and the skirt/legs in a different color.; you can make a fuller dress by working two sts in every stitch of row 5; or you can use the basic bodice through row 4 as a jumping off point for your own design!

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**Tiny Hats:** the hats are worked with size 10 crochet cotton and a size 6 hook, just like the doll body.

**Roll brim Sunhat:** work in continuous rounds; do not join unless directed to in the instructions.
1: Ch2, 10sc in the second ch from the hook. 10Sc
2: 2sc in each st around. 20 sc
3: (Sc in the first st, 2sc in the next st) around. 30 sc
4: (Sc in the first two sts, 2sc in the next st) around. 40 sc
5-10: Sc in each sc around. 40 sc At the end of round ten, join, ch2
11: work Crossed Double Crochet around the hat; the ch2 at the beginning does NOT count as the first dc.
12: In the BLO, (Sc in the first st, 2sc in the next st) around. 60 sc
13-14: Sc in each sc around. 60 sc
15: (Sc in the first two sts, two sc in the next st) around. 80 sc
16: (Sc in the first three sts, two sc in the next st) around. 100 sc
17: Sc in each sc around, finish off. Weave in the ends and you are done! You may want to dampen the hat and roll the brim and let it dry for the best look.

**Ribbed Cat Hat:** work the ribbing to fit around the head of your doll, join, then work into the rib rows for the body of the hat.

**Ribbing:**
1: Ch5, sc in the second ch from the hook and each ch across, ch1, turn.
2-44: BLO, sc in each sc across, ch1, turn. At the end of row 44, ch1, sl st the last row and the first row together. Turn the work so you are now working in the rows of the ribbing. **Note:** check the fit of the ribbing around your doll's head. It should be snug but not tight. Add or subtract rows of ribbing as necessary before sl stitching the ends together.

**Body of hat:**
1: Two sc in each rib around, do not join, 44sc
2: BLO, sc in each sc around, do not join, 44sc

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3-12: Sc in each sc around, do not join. 44Sc
13: Sc in the next 16 sc. Flatten the top and slip stitch the top closed, finish off. Weave in the ends and you are done!

You can make this a cap instead of a cat hat by reducing in rows 13 and 14 to 22 and 11 stitches respectively, then finish off leaving a long tail. Thread the tail through the last round of stitches and you have a cute cap :-) 

Decrease from row 10 by four stitches each row and you will have a Christmas cap for your doll :-)