



Wednesday Prayer

8th Sunday after Pentecost – Do we store up our treasures?

Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God." Luke 12:16-21

This parable places in stark terms God's expectation that we will not live only for ourselves. The tendency in our culture and our time is to live for ourselves. More than that, we tend to use our power, class, race, wealth, religion to increase our hold on what we have using methods which are exploitative but not obvious to our eyes. We are adept at distancing ourselves from the havoc we cause, not solving problems but moving them out of sight. We who are committed to justice for exploited young people work to keep the issues before eyes that would rather not see, and hearts that would rather not weep. That is a holy and faithful challenge, and your Cherish All Children Community thanks you for your dedication to God and God's children.

Lord Jesus, you lovingly drew children near to you in ways that challenged the norms of your time on earth. Give us your courage and your unquestioning love for children, and may the day come when exploitation ceases and all your children may dwell in safety and peacefulness. Amen.

Written by Pastor Nathan Tuff, Olivet Lutheran Church, Sylvania Ohio & Cherish All Children Advisory Board Member.