



Wednesday Prayer

2nd Sunday after Epiphany – Making Our Steps Secure

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord. Psalm 40:1-3

I gave up doing New Year's resolutions years ago – but I do get energized every January to "start fresh". I look forward to selecting my calendar (or calendars!) and filling them with travel plans, joyful family events like birthday celebrations, graduations and weddings, and volunteer and service commitments that are important to me. I even start out January with healthy habits scheduled and set aside specific times to complete everything on my "to do" list.

And yet I know that as detailed as my calendar might be, I have no idea what the next hour will bring, and certainly not the next 12 months. This year will again surely produce tears as well as joy. But like the Psalmist, I know that as I trust and rely on God, whatever miry bogs come my way, God will make my steps secure.

The work we do to prevent child sexual exploitation can feel like a desolate pit or miry bog. While much progress has been made, there are still too many headlines of horrible situations and continued exploitation of the vulnerable. However, we are assured that if we put our trust in the Lord – each step, whether large or small – is making a difference as we educate, equip, engage and pray for children.

The Cherish All Children event on January 25th – [Empowering Youth: Safe & Healthy Relationships](#) – is an opportunity to learn more about what steps we can all take to prevent sexual exploitation. It's designed as a learning opportunity to energize us as we start 2020. It's on my new calendar - how about you?

Dear Lord,

We thank you for the opportunity to start new everyday – not just in January – and for making our steps secure. We ask that you continue to strengthen our trust and reliance on you as we renew our work together to prevent child sexual exploitation. Put a new song in our hearts as we come together this year to continue to serve you and cherish all your children. Amen.

Written by Gwen Kuhrt, Cherish All Children Advisory Board Member and LSS Foundation Board Member. Gwen is also a member of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Excelsior, MN.