



Wednesday Prayer

4th Sunday after Epiphany – Every small act

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams..." He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:6-8

This weekend Cherish All Children hosted our 3rd annual community education event, bringing youth and adults together from diverse backgrounds and cultural experiences. We heard from professionals working to prevent sexual violence and promote healthy relationships in our communities, and we talked in small groups about what we can do to make a difference. These were not giving "thousands of rams" kinds of things, but everyday actions in our lives.

In this passage, Micah is not satisfied with this public show of serving God, doing big showy works to please God. To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God will require a way of life that consistently shows up, speaks up, does what is right in the face of wrong, and works to change systems in a society that continues to mess up. Every small act adds up to thousands working together for lasting change.

Check out some of the resources from our event to see how you can engage in your life to support healthy, safe relationships for young people:

- **MN Coalition Against Sexual Assault** – Prevention is Possible Rosemary Project video and 10 Simple Prevention Steps handouts
<https://www.mncasa.org/prevention/prevention-is-possible/>
- **Not a Number** interactive youth curriculum used by Cherish All Children – check out their "Love Listens" video and guide for parents and caregivers to keep children safe
<https://love146.org/caregivers/>
- **Seeing and Exploring Life's Future** healthy sexuality training provided by LSS, including training for the highly vulnerable population of individuals with disabilities. Enjoy this video of young people learning and growing:
<https://www.lssmn.org/services/youth/health/sex-education/special-education>

Loving God, whether we come to you as a parent, grandparent, teacher, coach, counselor, business person, trades person – help us to see that our small acts to support young people's healthy relationships powerfully add up. Amen.

Written by Joy McElroy, Cherish All Children Executive Director.