

## Wednesday Prayer

## 4th Sunday of Easter – Living Abundantly

## I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. John 10:10b

Living abundantly may not seem very fitting in these repetitive days at home, or in a care facility, or while sheltering in a hotel as a youth experiencing homelessness. Wherever you find yourself, perhaps these words Jesus spoke to his disciples in a very uncertain time can provide some guidance for us. Jesus used the metaphor of being the good shepherd, protecting the sheep, bringing healing, and abundance in green pastures.

The vision of Lutheran Social Service MN is to assure that all people have an opportunity to live full and abundant lives. Cherish All Children, as a part of the LSS Metro Homeless Youth Services team, has been partnering with churches during this time to bring an abundance of resources and in-kind donations to support young people. Coordinating healthy meals for youth, collecting masks made by faithful church folks, delivering chalk and art supplies so youth can participate in the nationwide thanks to essential workers – all these point to living abundantly in community together. Your support, including your prayers, bring hope in times of uncertainty.

Thank you for your continued care and love for the young people in your homes and in your communities. Your love and support may be just the protection needed at this time.



Chalk art created by youth staying in an LSS home for teen moms.

God of abundance, in these challenging days throughout the nation and world, keep us mindful of your protective love and care. In whatever way we are able to give, let us give abundantly, whether through our prayers, actions, or resources. Amen.

If you'd like to hear how LSS accompanies over 11,000 young people annually as they journey to find safety, stability, and hope – join us for our virtual <u>Benefit for Youth</u> on Tuesday, May 19, 11:45-12:30. Feel free to put my name down as your "Table Captain!"

Written by Joy McElroy, Cherish All Children Executive Director.