

## Wednesday Prayer

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany – Abundant Life

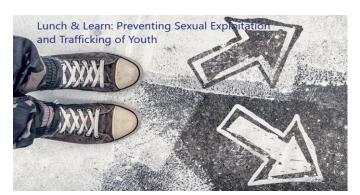
When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. John 2:9-11

In the story of the wedding in Cana of Galilee, we hear of Jesus' first miracle, changing water into wine – and lots of it! An abundance of wine for the celebration! This abundance as a symbol of the abundant life in Christ. In John 10:10, Jesus reveals, "I have come that they might have life, and have it abundantly."

Lutheran Social Service shares a mission to express the love of Christ for all people through service that inspires hope, changes lives, and builds community. LSS provides personalized services "that promote full and abundant lives." Our work through Cherish All Children strives to reach young people in order that they may grow into lives filled with healthy relationships, safe from exploitation and the suffering of trafficking. You are a part of this mission through your prayers, action and advocacy for young people.

We invite you to join us during this Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month, for a <u>Lunch & Learn: Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Youth</u> on January 27<sup>th</sup>, noon-1:00pm. You will hear from a panel of six LSS leaders from across Minnesota sharing the work being done to support youth, and ways you can make a difference in your own community. Register for this free online event!



Jesus, you reveal the abundance of life that is available to us. May we live into that abundance, sharing your love and protection with the young people in our lives. Bring us together in our work that all may thrive in your abundant love and grace. Amen.

Written by Joy McElroy, Cherish All Children Executive Director.