



## Wednesday Prayer

### Pentecost – The Gift of Many Languages

**When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.**

**Acts 2:1-4**

I love being part of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, an organization that empowers hundreds of staff and volunteers to reach out to change lives from so many different perspectives. People across our state have so many different needs. Refugees and new immigrants need assistance resettling in a new country. Others need help with housing, food, adoption services, straightening out their financial lives, finding relief from mental health challenges, and of course youth who need support to stay safe from predators and other risks.

Like those gathered in Jerusalem, the diverse staff and volunteers at LSS all “speak different languages”, with gifts and passions for different avenues of service. Often those who connect with us through one service are also in need of other services, and are easily directed to another LSS program, or one of our many community partners. Those of us involved with Cherish All Children not only pray for youth, educate them and their parents about staying safe from sexual predators, and advocate for policy change – but we also might be a gateway to other services that are critically needed.

During this Pentecost season, feel and embrace the power of the Holy Spirit blowing through your life, find and use your unique language, and find new ways to minister to those who need to hear the church’s on-going message of new life through Christ.

**Come Holy Spirit, set our hearts on fire, stir us from the placidness that can overtake us. Just as you gave the gift of new language to the early disciples, empower us to speak of your love and grace in new ways. Compel us to live lives of prayer, education and advocacy, especially to those most vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking, so they can feel the power of your love as it blows through the universe. Amen.**

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*\*We are currently working on translating our Safe & Healthy Relationships Youth Guide into Spanish to support Spanish-speaking ELCA churches in the U.S. and our partner churches in Guatemala. You can help us continue to deepen our impact in many communities by participating in or making a gift towards our [2023 Cherish All Children Hybrid 5K](#). Join us!*