



# Cherish All Children

Pray + Educate + Connect + Act

## Wednesday Prayer – Transfiguration of our Lord

***Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Luke 9:28-29***

When my daughters were in high school, we always battled about the appropriate time to come home when they went out with their friends on the weekends. Their curfew was midnight, but they always came up with reasons and rationalizations that might allow them to stay out later. I'm sure they got tired of hearing me say, "The ratio of people doing evil vs. the people doing good goes way up after midnight." Evil thrives in the darkness. Those who are doing evil use the cloak of darkness to cover up their actions. Others don't even want to talk about what happens in the darkness. They don't want their pleasant lives to be overshadowed by the darkness of human trafficking so they resist listening when a light is cast into the shadows and the realities are brought into light.

In Luke's account of the Transfiguration, Jesus went up on the mountain to pray. It was while he was praying that he was changed; the appearance of his face and his clothes became dazzling white, casting light into the darkness. When we pray, we often think of praying for change in the lives of others, and we have confidence that God hears our prayers for others. But we often don't recognize that praying also brings about change in ourselves. God comes to us as pray-ers and brings change to each of us. We're empowered by the light of Christ and we're equipped to reflect Christ's light into the dark corners of the world where evil is wreaking havoc.

When we pray for children and youth, we ask God to intervene in their lives to keep them safe from what lurks in the darkness. When we pray, we also receive God's changes in our own lives. We're empowered to reflect Christ's light into the darkness by educating, connecting, and acting. When we reflect Christ's light into the darkness, it is a light no darkness can overcome.

**God of light and glory, we come to you in prayer asking that you shine light into the darkness where human trafficking threatens the lives of children and youth. Shine through each of us that we might be prisms to reflect Christ's light in a thousand directions. When we get discouraged, remind us that we are yours, and we're reflecting your light that no darkness can ever overcome. Amen.**

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Today's Wednesday Prayer was written by Kay Kinkel, MA,MSW, formerly rostered as an Associate in Ministry in the ELCA, and now a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker.