



Wednesday Prayer

2nd Sunday of Advent – What if the unthinkable were possible?

**The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.
Isaiah 11:6**

This imagery – wolf and lamb, leopard and kid, calf and lion – describe unimaginable partnerships as a way to open our minds to the coming king, a humble baby who will show nations the way of justice. The prophet Isaiah shares a vision that seems unthinkable, offering hope for new relationships through the path of the Christ child.

As we travel through the Advent season, listen for the messages of young people as they work for justice and peace. Children and youth often have unbounded hope, making incredible strides forward and leading the path for others. In the online article [“10 Young People Who Changed the World to Add to Your Class Curriculum”](#), I read about youth working for justice for those who are vulnerable, using their own situations or their passions for the good of others. Here are a few excerpts:

Jaylen Arnold: As a child, Jaylen was diagnosed with Tourette’s syndrome, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and Asperger’s syndrome. Due to his differences, he was often bullied by other students at his school. Jaylen decided that instead of fighting back, he could stand up for other children who are bullied because they are different. He started the [Jaylen’s Challenge Foundation](#), a nonprofit that educates children across the United States about how they can prevent bullying.

Marley Dias: At 11 years old, Marley was frustrated that most children’s books she saw were not culturally diverse. That’s why she decided to launch the #1000BlackGirlBooks Twitter campaign to collect and donate books that would help Black girls feel seen. Marley was able to donate more than 9,000 books through the program and wrote [Marley Dias Gets It Done: And So Can You!](#)

Nicholas Lowinger: As a teenager, Nicholas started a community service drive to donate footwear to children experiencing homelessness. As part of the project, he started the nonprofit [Gotta Have Sole](#). To date, the program has donated over 100,000 shoes to shelters across every state in the United States.

May we follow their example in our work, seeing the possibilities with renewed hope.

**Humble Christ child, may we listen to the messages of young people with compassion,
commit to work for the safety of all children and youth, and work with them for justice
and peace. Amen.**

Written by Joy McElroy, Cherish All Children Executive Director and LSS Metro Homeless Youth Services team member.