



Wednesday Prayer

All Saints Sunday – Then God will wipe away the tears

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day,

“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Isaiah 25:6-9

This week we remember and honor the saints who have gone before us – those we’ve loved in our own families and many whom we don’t personally know but hold in high regard. These words from the prophet Isaiah can offer some comfort as we take in the imagery of our loved ones in a place of rich food and drink, a place where tears, disgrace, pain, and all types of shrouds have been lifted.

This month is also Domestic Violence Awareness month, now also called Relationship Violence. This change in terms helps open our minds to the many types of relationships where violence is present. I was listening to a radio program this morning and they talked about the violence many youth experience in their relationships and that they wouldn’t call it “domestic violence” *and* may not even recognize that this is not normal. If no one is talking to them about healthy relationships or if this is what they’ve seen in their own home, they may think this is just how relationships are. In addition, there is still a shroud of secrecy that often accompanies relationship violence. The speaker from [Tubman](#) encouraged us all to learn more about how to identify those in our midst who may be suffering from relationship violence, supporting their journey “from fear to freedom”. Take a look at their websites for adults and youth for guidance and resources. She emphasized,

“Love should not hurt, and you are strong enough to do this.”

Protecting God, as we remember the Saints who have gone before us, help us also remember those among us who are suffering. Help us to lift the shrouds as you wipe away tears and invite us all to your abundant feast. Guide our conversations with the youth in our lives and communities that we may support with love. Amen.

Written by Joy McElroy, Cherish All Children Executive Director.

Tubman’s Youth site: [About : MyDefinition.org : Tubman](#)