

Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation

December 2025

JOY TO THE WORLD, THE LORD HAS COME

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Many blessings to you as we enter the blessed season of Advent, a time of preparation for Christmas. We are all painfully aware that we are living in a world in need of love. We are living in a world in need of healing love, not unlike the time of the birth of our Lord Jesus. In those days, the prayers to our Lord were for a warrior to save the world from the destruction that was unfolding. And, indeed, the Lord sent a mighty warrior, a true warrior - a healer. As our scripture teaches us, our Savior's ministry was a ministry of healing. Then our Lord Jesus sent his disciples out to all the world to continue his healing ministry. And He sends us, sisters and brothers, and all His followers for time immemorial to continue His healing ministry. Let us rejoice in this holy mission and go out to the world, proclaiming the good news through our words and actions.



Compassionate, Loving Action

Grounded in prayer and scripture, let us go out to all the world and tell the good news by carrying our Lord's love into the world. During this advent, may each of us choose an intentional act of healing service to those in need, in need of food, clothing, shelter, those in need of welcome or special attention. May our Lord guide us as we humbly do what He sends us to do and may we do it joyfully.



Let Us Pray

Most loving, compassionate, Sovereign Lord, we stand before you in deep gratitude for the mission to which you have called us. Embolden and encourage us as we hear Your voice and carry Your love and healing into the world through our loving actions. May we celebrate Your birth in joy, for You are the light of the world. May we honor Your light in all we think, feel, say, and do. Amen.



Let Us Sing

Let us join our Franciscan voices at our gatherings this December and sing "Joy to the World." Indeed, this is a most joyous time of the year!

May we pray, act, and sing as we carry God's Hope and healing Love into the world.