

Diocese of Helena Advent 2018



*2018 Advent Prayer of the Diocese of Helena
Prepared by Fr. Ed Hislop Chair,
Diocesan Liturgical Commission*

As loss encircles us,
as broken promises discourage us,
as abuse harms us and darkness
surrounds us:
we weep, we struggle, we wonder,
we wander, we long for truth,
for healing, for justice:

*We wait in
Joyful Hope...*

“The days are coming says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise...The Lord is our Justice.”

The First Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33: 14, 16

ALL LOVING GOD, WE TRUST
IN YOUR LIFE-GIVING GRACE
YOUR ABIDING LOVE AND YOUR
BOUNTIFUL MERCY.

You formed the universe and the beauty of the earth out of chaos, pouring light and grace upon every creature, infusing your people with compassion and a longing for community. We come to you now in these dark days.

FILL US

with the desire to heal.

HELP US

transform the pain filling your Church.

LEAD US

from sadness to joy, from fear to hope, and from doubt to confidence in you and each other.

ENCOURAGE US

to follow your light, to seek your justice and fall into your mercy.



STRENGTHEN US

to do the work of changing our hearts and ways.

EMBOLDEN US

to inspire your Church to conversion, new vision and restored mission.

BLESS US

in these days of longing for new life and new spirit.

TEACH US

to prepare the way for your Christ to be seen anew.

GIVE US COURAGE

to follow your light, seen more clearly in the darkness.

RENEW OUR VOICE

to speak the word of your truth.

REMIND US

again to serve justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with all whose hearts are broken.

We pray with Christ, your Son, whose way we make ready.

Amen!

“Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Luke 1:45