**Prayers of the Faithful Against Racism**

As we enter this season of joyful anticipation, let us bring to God our prayers for peace as we await the fulfillment of God’s promise.

**For our Church,** that we may celebrate and welcome the diverse faces of Christ in our community, our worship, our ministries, and our leaders, let us pray to the Lord.

**For world leaders,** that they may work to end the violence perpetrated by verbal attacks, deadly weapons, and cold indifference. May our nation and countries around the world become havens of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**For our community,** that we may receive the grace to see every human being as a child of God, regardless of race, language, or culture, let us pray to the Lord.

**For parents and educators,**that we may teach our children how to resolve differences non-violently and respectfully and have the courage to model it in our own behavior, let us pray to the Lord.

**For this faith community,**that we may hear the call of our leaders in the new Pastoral Letter against Racism to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit to act together to end violence and racism, let us pray to the Lord.

**For our public officials,**that the Spirit of Wisdom may help them strive to work for equal education, suitable housing, and equal employment opportunities for all, let us pray to the Lord.

**For solidarity in our global human family,** that we may be vigilant in our protection of those who are most vulnerable and most in need, let us pray to the Lord.

**For those who have died,**especially those who have died in the pursuit of justice, may they be welcomed into the great glory of God’s love, let us pray to the Lord.

Loving God, whose promise of justice sustains us,
as we e await your coming at Christmas,
hear these our prayers that we might ready our hearts and our communities
for the coming of Christ, our example in all things.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.