

Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent



Let justice descend, O heavens, like dew from above; like gentle rain let the skies drop it down. Let the earth open and salvation spring forth; let justice also spring up. Isaiah 45:8

Imagine...if everything on the 'earth' were to open up, such that goodness and peace [salvation] 'grew' everywhere! If justice, opportunity for everyone, were business-as-usual. If division and violence were treated like the pandemic. In Isaiah 45, the prophet was saying, this is coming! Get ready! Wake up!

Of course, this *salvation and justice* have come, already but not yet! They came down from heaven and sprang up from Mary, from the earth, as Jesus introduced us to a social order soaked in God's mercy and justice...*saving grace*. Jesus personified God's brand of *justice* and *salvation*. Jesus met people at their point of need: he cured diseases and blindness and lame bodies. He freed people of various 'evil spirits'. "The poor had the good news preached to them," more by way of journeying with them at their point of suffering than by scolding sermons. He married heaven and earth together into a God-designed *way of life*, by walking this *way* through homes and the market places of his time. That's our invitation this Advent...the *wake up* call. Because, Jesus' mission is still in process!

Advent is a time to remember, Jesus will never fail in inspiring justice and peace; what about the *opening the earth* part? Our part? If justice is to reign down from heaven and also *to spring up from the earth*, it seems like we and God are to work together...earth working with heaven. A sort of marriage...throwing our lots in together, which will grow salvation and justice.

Perhaps we need billboards and social media posts like one I have seen:

Good morning.

This is God.

I will be around as you encounter your day. I presume you will need my help.

I surely do need yours.

So have a good day.

Sister Lynn Marie Welbig, PBVM

[Click here to view the USCCB Daily Scripture Readings](#)