



Two shepherds
are on their way
their way makes sense
because they have a goal

hopeful they are
our two shepherds
otherwise they would not be
on their way
they have already learnt it
it's worth setting out

they are on their way
with their sheep
carrying them on their shoulders
perhaps they are lame
tired or sick

on the way
that the star points to
on the way to the child
in the manger
we need each other

let us not lose sight
of the goal
together

let us set out together
full of hope
towards our goal
let us carry together
those who need us
and cannot manage alone.

Advent 2025

We would like to send you warm greetings from Siessen for the upcoming Christmas season. The Holy Year 2025, which Pope Francis had proclaimed and placed under the motto of hope, will be solemnly concluded by Pope Leo XIV on 6 January 2026. At the many events, large and small, over the course of the year, we Franciscan Sisters of Siessen strived to keep the light of hope burning. In a meeting with the younger Sisters of our Congregation in South Africa at the beginning of the year and in our extraordinary General Chapter in August, we experienced joy, encouragement and fulfilled hope. Now the shepherds take us on their journey to the child in the manger, to the "God with us," who has come so incredibly close to us in his incarnation.

Strengthened by the hope that this child gives us, we are heading into the year 2026, which will bring important changes for our Congregation. From August to October, the General Leadership and the Provincial Leaderships will be elected as scheduled. We want to walk this exciting path together as hopeful people. God will show us who should lead our Congregation in future.

We ask for you and ourselves to be inspired by the shepherds and to set out again and again with hope. Let us remain united in prayer.

We wish you a merry and joyful Christmas and, for the year 2026, the daily experience of God's blessing.

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