Christmas Messages From th

which Christ came, but He would size

it rest. It was a dying world, but He

and love. Looking back across the

for so many people as Jesus. And we

"Above the noise of selfish strife

We hear Thy voice, O Bon of Man."

centuries no one has done so

Hymn by Phillips Brooks,

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem.

"Be born in us to-day.

Our Lord Immenuel."

Descend on us we pros.

We liesr the Christmas angels

The great slad tidings tell;

O name to us, shide with us,

REV. J. O. TOTTON

Ashgrove United Church

CHRISTMAS REVEALS GOD

that when he died, he left word to his

people that his son would be their

king, and though they had never seen

his face, they would judge of his gov-

ernment by his acts. The people promi-

sed obedience. The influence of the

new ruler was wise and kind, and like

the beams of the sum, it streamed out

and said, 'We see him not; how does

he understand us so well?" They

came to the palace gates and said,

"Let the king suffer us to see his

face." The king came forth to them

in his royal robes, and when they saw

not disguise him. They knew him.

dwelt among us." etc.

This is what Christmas really means.

In the incarnation our King comes to

the palace gate and lets us see his

God was in the world before, rul-

ing in love and wisdom. We did not

recognize or know him; but we felt

His power and received of His grace.

He was among us, as we might say,

incognito. But in the incarnation of

Christ He revealed Himself. He made

Himself visible to us; He permitted us

to realize who the one that had been

our benefactor really was, and some-

thing of the depth of the love He

"If you but leave your heart ajar

Some blessed angel from some star

To hang upon the hallowed place

A portrait of the Saviour's face."

Greetings, and trust you will have a

very happy Christmas. As we exchange

gifts, let us remember God's greatest

gift to the world, His Own Son, and

the spirit which prompted it. May the

Spirit of Him whose birthday we cele-

brate prevail in our hearts and prompt

us to greater efforts for Him during

the coming year. Remember God gave

His only Son for us; can we give Him

REV. CHARLES CUMMINGS

Norval United Church

bombs, merrily ringing church bells

Hitler's curses. Christmas carols, yes,

disharmony - but hope. The spiritu-

al blackout is not complete, else the

bells were silent and the carols had

In spite of the fury of madmen the

manger of Bethlehem is still central

All the atreams of ancient history con-

verged there, and there the streams of

modern history had their rise. In spite

smile of purity and love makes sweet

the Babe of Bethlehem suggests Eg-

ypts of refuge for the stricken ohild-

Christian folk have carried the man-

the centre of their homes. Call it a

cradle if you will - as we kneet beside

air bombs, we can still hear the an-

gels sing. At that cradle the alternat

receives his spirit of decine, the sidor

the mother her calm and fortifieds.

purity, innocence and love of

use is victory if the manger is de

his courage, the soldier his brovers.

manger we continue the present strog-

ple and sacrifice to the limit? What

Is it not true, that to protect the

it we feel the Christ child near Kneel

ing there, between the screeches

ger from Bethlebem and placed it is

of Herod, Hitler and Company,

and glad every Christian home.

Babe of Bethlehem still smiles.

I extend to you all the Season's

A Christmas gift to win,

Will softly enter in,

less than our best?

DECEMBER 25th

ren of Europe.

What disharmony!

"The Word became flesh and

of the royal palace, bringing joy

It is related of a wise Eastern ruler

Cast out our sin, and enter in;



Georgetown United Chafeh THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS

sage for a world distraught and fearcan truly believe that sin Tear, strike earth at Christmas, in the person of a Mobe, the form in which, of all this creation. He would be most utherly and helpletsly dependent on the service of man. Here God gave Himself into the keeping of man, knowing that the salvation of the world, the very end of all His creative power, - was dependent moon man's resnonee to that inconceivable, unima-

bille and the heath. Here are demonstrated three stupendous truths; First, the age-long challenge of God to man for his service and co-operation, in the work of reflectning and re-building the world. Then the limitless faith God in the ultimate goodness of man, and in his response to that challenge And lastly, the supreme confidence of God that that Babe will finally become King, and that His eternal purpose of Peace and Goodwill will be triumphant. For God knows the end from the beginning, and is it conceivable that in His omniscience and omnipotence, He would commit his Only Begotten Son to a disastrous and fruitless ad-

Bo the Christmas message is one of challenge and of hope; of challenge! to utter dedication of our lives in God's service, in the sure and certain hope of the complete triumph of His Kingdom.

REV. E. G. BAXTER Georgetown Baptist Cherch TO FRIENDS IN THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

To wish you a happy Christmas may seem to be only a greeting, customary at this time of the year, or a passing pleasantry in keeping with the day. But. I assure you, thought for you is deeper than just that. The sincere Christmas wish is a prayer: for only God can give a happy Christmas, and this He does through the gift of His Son. Some may ask: "When did this custom of greeting and giving at Christmas begin?" The enswer is simple. "When God out of a loving heart, gave His Bon from heaven to all mankind, and with Him sent greetings of peace and goodwill."

Happiness is the joy of heaven entering in our lives. The shepherds found it when they followed the Angel's word and found the Holy Babe in the manger in Bethlehem. The Wisemen found it when they followed the ster and worshipped with gifts before the Infant King. A heavenly joy filled their lives and they went away

May this joy be yours is my prayer for you when I wish you a happy Christmas.

REV. W. G. O. THOMPSON St. George's Church of England, CHRISTMAS

On the first Christmas morn, the angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds as they kept watch over their flock, and they were "sore afraid." The angels first word to them was "fear not," and he told them that he brought them "good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Then the heavenly choir joined the engelic messenger, and carolled the Gloria in Excelsis, with its conclusion, "On earth peace, to men of goodwill." Peace in a world at war? Does the Christmas message apply today Yes, in all the world, in Germany, and Italy, Greece, England, China, Vapan, Georgetown, there is a Christmas message of peace - but, to men of goodwill. To all men everywhere who hate tyranny and love mercy, who hate lies and love the truth, who hate war and love peace, who love God and their neighbours, who are ready to work, and even to fight, for what they dinocrely believe - to them the Christthis angel says "fear not." May we show ourselves to be men of goodwill in family, church, community. this imhappy world. May the of the Christ-child be with all who read these words, and with all the children of God, wherever they may be.

REV. A. O. W. FOREMAN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour. which is Cheist the Lord."

Angel to the shephertis on the mustiing of Christ's birth, and it is one of continue the struggle we are in pursuing the right as God gives us comfort and hope.

the right, and senotify the manger so far as it is in our power to to do. Let the bells be rung, the carols sung, the yule log burned. In so far as possible lead every child to the manger to morship. More in Osmeda what is there to hinder the old saying "A Merry Christmas and a New "Year." Pechane in all the ages this time to make all our Christmas cheer and gladuces an act of worship. "In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brothern,

ye have done it unto me." Babe and the song of the angels will times. prevail against the frown of war and the thunder of battle. In that faith I wish you and all

your moders a merry Christmas and Happy New Year. REV. S. R. COLEBROOK St. John's, Slowerttown; St. Beal's, Nor-

val; 51. Stephen's, Hernby. Church of England

EXPERIE CHRISTMAS . It is good to remember 'that each' special day of our church and secular calendar embodies a certain spirituial idea which should form part of our daily lives. The spirit of thanks and gratitude ought to be with us always, It was a sinful, selfish world, but He but it is made righer and stronger by mould bring cleansing and forgiveness the celebration of Theretagiving. Patriotism and duty ought to be remembered often, but they are mourished and encouraged by the meaning Deminion Day.

and war will all finally be overcome. It is good therefore to Christmas as we do. It lifts us above "the common round, the daily tank." May our prayer be as expressed in the But there is something better than the mere observance of the Day, and that is to keep it throughout the year. Charistress Day enshrines a Spirit that no other day contains. It is the spirit that "God so loved the world that he gave," and the gift that he gave was His Son. In that gift, that blessed life which began in Bethichem nineteen hundred years ago there is shining the glory and wonder of the Eternal Love of God for sinful men and women. It is the fact of this gift that has transformed all ideas of liv-

> ing and giving. What must we do to keep Christmas? Henry Vandyke has summed it up in these words. "Are you willing stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children; to remember the weaknesses and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to make grave for your ugly thoughts, and garden for your kindly feelings, with

the gate open?" every subject. The people marvelled We must believe too, that love is the strongest thing in the world - stronger than evil, stronger than death. For it was Divine Love which came down to earth or Christmas Day - and livamong men, and bled, and died, and rose again for them. If we believe and do these things even for a

him they rejoined and said, "We know thy face." He had walked often with day, we can keep Christmas. them as their friend, showing love and If we keep it for a day, then let us kindness to all, that when they saw keep it always. But we can never do him in his palace, his kingly robes did

REV. ARTHUR LEGGETT

Norval Presbyterian Church

"The Angel said unto them. Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour who Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11.

The account of the birth of Christ. the greatest event in the world's history, is portrayed for us in the Gospel of Luke by the pen of a Master. is beautiful with songs of human rapture ascending to heaven and visions of shining angels descending to earth. It is deeply imbued with holiness exmay we see our King at His palace pressed in the joy of Elizabeth and Mary, the adoration of the shepherds, the prayer and prophecy of Simeon,

and the testimony of Anna. While the tremendous significance of the birth of Christ, as viewed the unseen world, is thus brought into prominence, the human circumstances are clearly depicted. The decree of Augustus Caesar brought Mary Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem. where Mary brought forth her firstborn Son, wapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in

The wonder of it is that when He whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, came in very deed to dwell with men in the form of a man, He came, not amid the wealth and splendour of a palace, but among the poorest of the poor. He was born amid the squalor of a stable - condescending to the very lowest in order that He might be identified with all.

Christmas is a blessed time of the year. What is more wonderful than the calm splendour of a winter night? What is more beautiful than the snow, mantling the frozen fields, glittering with dassling whiteness under the light of the sun? More wonderful, more beautiful is the love that comes from the heart of God and glows in the hearts of men, manifesting itself in the giving of gifts, and in helping the hnfortuncte. It is the anniversary of the day when the angels brought such joyful tidings concerning the giving of God's best gift to poor, lost, suffering

In the midst of a world made black with hatred and treachery, violence and cruelty, tragedy and sorrow, let us rejoice this Christmas tide, even as did the shepherds of long ago, in God's mingle with those of the celestial choir in the great pealm of praise and to do a double doty this Christman - Hight that streams from the throne of

TEV. FR. J. L. Mel

"Behold a virgin shall conceive and bring forth a son and they shall call his name Emmanuel." E Wat. 1, 23. Christitias is the day of all days in the annels of time; for it commention of God's infinite power and goodnees - the incarnation of the Livine Word, the menuming of human nature by the Eternal Son of God.

Whether we consider the Incurnation in all-surpassing excellence, or in the lessons that it beaches to manking or in the countless blessings that it has heaped upon us, we must confess that it is the greatest, the most memorable the most heart-subduling event that has ever taken place in the whole his-But thith is that the smile of the tory of God's dealing with His crea-

After the fall of Adam, God left man, for beveral thousand years to his own devices. For if we had been redeemed ut once we would not realize the greatness of the Fall or the depth of our degradation. But when it became manifest to all that man would never rise but was year by year sinking lower and lower to the level of the brute, God sent His only begotten Son. into the world to become a child among men in order to lead men back to

At last the final moment had arrived and the Exernal Father commanded his angels to attend the birth of His Divine Son. The portal of Heaven flew upen and a vest multitude of the heavenly army, headed by the highest of the angels speed forth. The angels knew that it was in the city ti David, that their Messiah would born; for the monhet had foretold it. In the meanwhile the chades of night were fast falling, and two weary, footsore travellers might have been seen wending their way from Jerusalem to-

wards Bethlehem. They had come a four days journey over the rough, stony paths from the distant fown of Resaroth to be enrolled in their native city of Bethlehem. We may not stop to relate all the events of that great night, the story in main is too wellknown. But let us recollect the lesson that it teaches to mankind.

And what lessons may we not learn from the child Jesus as He teaches from His pulpit in the manger? He comes in the form of impocent childhood to impress upon us, as our first lesson, that as such is the kingdom of heaven, and that it is only the pure in heart that shall even see God. He casts aside all the riches of the world for fear if He surrounded Himself with them we might learn to love them, and forget that the riches of this world are but dross compared with priceless treasures of the world to come. And who was worthy of higher honour on earth than Christ and His blessed mother? What woman that ever lived could compare with the Blessed Virgin, who was of the royal race of David, the mother of God and queen of earth and heaven? And before the infant Jesus every knee should bow of those who are in heaven or on earth and under the earth. Thus Christ teaches us in | the stable that our highest honour is ! to be children of God and heirs of an

everlasting kingdom. But the most essential lesson to learn from the Babe of Bethlehem is our bounden duty to love God above all and our neighbour for God's sake. "Let us love God," says St. John, 'Because He first loved us and delivered Himself up for us." When we realize as we ought that the apparently helpless infant in the manger is the infinite God. who holds all creation in the hollow of His hand, the Eternal : the all-now. who fills heaven and earth with His immensity, and that He has set aside all His Divine perfections, and chained Himself forever to a clod of earth, our human nature, in order to show His love for us, in order to disarm us of fear, and in the lovellest and most attractive of all forms, the form of childhood, to draw our hearts to love Him. our Creator and Redeemer, we must surely feel that it is our highest duty to love Him, in turn, with every fibre

of our being. And when we remember that the Son of God thus humbled Himself for love of us and for love of our neighbour, we begin to understand that we cannot truly love God unless we also love our neighbour. This is Christ's commandment to us: "Love one another as I have loved you." So great is Christ's solicitude for us, that He assumed and morally identifies Himself with the person of each and every one of us, so that whatever is done to us and our neighbour. He considers it as done to Himself. "Amen, I say to you as often as you did it to one of these my least brethern, you did it to

In the mind of Christ, therefore, to love our neighbour for the love Christ, means to treat our neighbor as we know we ought to treat Christ. We often condemn the inhabitants Bethlehem in their heartlessness refusing a lodging to the Holy Family. and we flatter ourselves that we would have acted so differently. must recollect that if the Bethlehemites knew what we know they no doubt would have welcomed the mother of in love and gratitude to the God who were denied that privilege, which would promise to take to heart and put it have made them immortal, was because practice all the lessons He has taught they did not observe the command- us that we may one day enjoy the inment to love their neighbour for the effable happiness that His Incarnalove of God. If they had done this they would have harbored Christ Him-

This is the plain teaching of Christ from the manger, and it is this teaching that has and will transform the world. How could anyone take the life of a helpless child, born or unborn, when he knows that God will consider the act as done to the child Jesus? How could women be any longer demessage of peace. Let the purpy voices graded, as of old, when men believe that Christ would regard it as treatment accorded Himself? And how ther lingiving to Golf for Stie unspeak could slavery continue to exist in the able gift. For it is the birthday of presence of this teaching? How could our King, Jesus, who came to save his men oppress his fellow man and depeople, from their bios, to put heaven- prive him of his just share when then y peace in our hearts, to bring beauty | believe that Christ their Redeemer and for ashes, the oil of joy instead of Judge, will regard it as done to Himmourning, the garment of praise in- self. Christ Himself, has given the stead of the mostive in heaviness. He full solution of all the social problems came to make our guilty, sin-stained that to-day trouble humanity. Anyone some more pure, and beautiful than therefore, who denies that Christ is the snow — so rare they will speckie God, takes all meaning and force out. The many diamonds under the blesting of Christ's teaching, and is only throwing dust in the eyes of the people when he continues to speak of putting in



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Friday, December 27 "LITTLE OLD NEW YORK" Alice Faye, Fred MacMurray, Richard Greene

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New Year's Eve Midnight Show at 10 to 12 "MY LOVE CAME BACK" Olivia DeHavilland, Jeffrey Lynn, Charles Winninger Comedy "Riding into Society" Cartoon "Circus Today"



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practice the spirit of Christ. If Christ were not God, to treat our neighbour as we would treat Christ, means nothing whatever for the unlifting of humanity. The greatest enemy today, therefore, of the workingman, the greatest enemy of womankind, greatest enemy of childhood and or the human race is the man who tries to destroy belief in Christ's divinity and the greatest friend the society which staunchly upohlds the divinity of Christ and the binding force of all His teachings. Such are the lessons that the infant Jesus teaches us from the manger. - purity and innocence of heart, patience and self-sacrifice, contempt of the riches and pleasures of this world, and the love of God above all things and our neighbour as ourselves for the love of God. As this joviul anniversary of His birth is upon us, let us pour out our souls God. But the real reason why they made us and redeemed us, and let us tion has placed within our grasp. Rev. Pather McBRIDE

> Wishing my. customers a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



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