



Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

December 2015

"So the shepherds hurried off and located Mary and Joseph, and found the baby lying in a manger. When they saw him, they related what they had been told about this child, and all who heard it were astonished at what the shepherds said. But Mary treasured up all these words, pondering in her heart what they might mean. So the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; everything was just as they had been told." Luke 2:16—20

Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ! Without this significant event we would have no solutions to people's problems. Our bondage to sin, brokenness and evil would be permanent if Jesus had not come to this earth, lived a perfect life (showing us how to live), died for our sins and came back to life. Jesus showed us how to live victoriously in this fallen world. The example He gave us was one of humility, acceptance, forgiveness, and care. By Jesus living on this earth, He understands our struggles and problems and sympathizes with us. But He doesn't stop there, He teaches us how to respond to life's difficulties and how to treat others who need kindness, love, and truth.

This year we have seen Jesus lovingly care for and heal hearts that have been broken by the painful events in this dark world. Jesus came to shine His light on the darkness and chase it away, replacing it with truth and love. Psalm 103:6 says, "The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed." He brings good out of bad and judges the offender. That means we don't have to, we can trust Him to take care of the wrongs that are done to us.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous Gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Our prayer is that you are blessed by the birth of Christ this year as we are blessed by your prayers and gifts which encourage us. So "Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!"

Wayne and Jeanine Allen

