



Bishop's Christmas Message December 2020

To: All Clergy and Leadership of the Anglican Province of America
and our Communion Partners

“And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth.” This timeless truth inspires our hearts each Christmas time as we especially meditate upon our Lord's birth as the babe in the lowly manger. God has become man in order to win man to himself. God in his infinite love toward mankind, did not wish us to perish but ultimately live with Him for all eternity. May we rejoice and praise God for his unspeakable Gift.

Our 2020 world has been enduring a pandemic, political upheaval, civil unrest, and economic turmoil over the past 8 months. As Christians, we know that God is not surprised by the heart of man which is referred to in Scripture as “... deceitful above all things and desperately wicked ...” (Jer. 17:9). And yet, we Christians often allow ourselves to get discouraged, fearful, and anxious. I was reading an article the other day about John D. Rockefeller, who was the richest man in the world. He had fancy houses in various parts of the country but had no central heating and air conditioning and certainly no television. It took him days, weeks, and months to get around the country and the world. He and his family had no vaccinations or antibiotics and he, his wife, and children had limited longevity. Can you imagine, they had no cell phone service.

Do we realize how fortunate we are and how grateful we should be? Even the poorest family in our country have most of the necessities the Rockefellers did not have. God has blessed us to be here, at a time “such as this” in the greatest, and the freest country in the world.

And now we celebrate the greatest Gift of all that God has entered our world bringing new Life and Hope and Peace. God the Creator has come to his creation in the form of one of them to give them an idea of the kind of Being he is. Jesus Christ has come among us, O come let us adore Him!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

+ Walter H. Grundorf

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