



The Diocese of Western Anglicans
Anglican Church in North America

The Rt. Rev. William A. Thompson, Bishop

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)

December 21, 2011

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Despite all of the maudlin sentimentality of the season; despite all of the bland pronouncements of this being a season of warm and cozy feelings toward one another; despite the cultural insistence that this season of Christmas is nothing more than a time for people to get together and feel loving with one another, there is profound power in the Christmas message. The fact that God became man in Jesus Christ, once and for all dispels any idea that God cares at a safe distance.

On the contrary, God is with us, intimately. He loves us so much that He became one of us in order to show us the way to Him. He was willing to give His all so that we would not have to suffer the consequence of our sins. “God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son so that all who believe in Him would not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

What does that say about our worth and value in God’s eyes? What does it say about the extent of God’s love? It says that we are of infinite worth to our God. How can we do anything else at this time of year than to fall on our knees and praise His Holy Name for this most wonderful gift of all, the great gift against which all our other gifts of this season are just a pale reflection.

As we sing our carols, decorate our trees, open presents, and attend church, let us all remember that all of these activities are testimonies to the fact that we, who live in Jesus, are all saved from the consequences of our sins because of God’s demonstrated love in that stable so long ago. “O, Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.”

May God bless all of you as you celebrate the incarnation of our living Lord.

With love in Christ,

The Right Reverend William A. Thompson
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