

## Merry Christmas, and a Blessed New Year!



***<sup>8</sup> That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly an angel appeared among them, and the landscape shone bright with the glory of the Lord. They were badly frightened, <sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them.***

***“Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you the most joyful news ever announced, and it is for everyone! <sup>11</sup> The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem! <sup>12</sup> How will you recognize him? You will find a baby wrapped in a blanket, lying in a manger!” Luke 2: 8-12***

In keeping with the true meaning of Christmas, we pray that you receive all that is important this season: May you enjoy cherished time with your family and friends; time to laugh, time to hug, time to recharge and time to reflect. May your holiday be filled with the awe of a 6 year old on a magical Christmas Morning. May your travels be safe and smooth, and may all your lights be green!

After the often frantic preparations for the holidays, it seems there's a quiet point in each holiday season. A quiet point that offers time for the reaffirmation of personal values, time to reflect on the last year, and time to evaluate all that is good in our lives. A point where we think back over past memories and look ahead with great anticipation and resolution for the year ahead.

It is our hope and prayer that everyone is able to find that true secret of Christmas - Peace and Joy, especially in these times of global and national unrest. We pray you are able to re-center, focus on your personal values and priorities, and stride into the New Year with a sense of peace and confidence that all is good in the world. Best wishes and God Bless You All this holiday season!!