



CHRISTMAS 2024
A MESSAGE FROM THE
PRIMATE OF THE TRADITIONAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Beloved Brethren in Christ:

As I write this Christmas message, we are approaching the Fourth Sunday in Advent and the days leading to the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. The season of watching for the Lord's coming again in glory gives way to one of joyous anticipation for the coming season of Christmas.

This Christmas, like those of the past, will draw us to a lowly stable, to a young mother with her newborn Babe. It is a scene etched in our minds, held in our hearts. A simple scene yet filled with theological meaning. The secular amidst the sacred; humanity amidst the divine. The angels revealed the sacred to the shepherds, the revelation that God had come among us – Jesus Christ was born! Those same angels in that same revelation proclaimed: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace good will among men!”

Yet that holy night, as our world today, was not one of peace nor of good will among men. Into a fallen world, the Saviour was born in Bethlehem, the City of David, the fulfillment of the ancient prophecies. He had come to His own. He had come to all seeking the true Light, the true God, those seeking the ‘means of grace, and the hope of glory’.

The peace of God will come only through Christ, good will among men through obedience to the will of God. Jesus gave His disciples a new commandment as the means of that peace and good will: ‘to love as He loves us’. As Christians, it is our responsibility to share not only the message of salvation in Jesus Christ but also the peace of God in Christ. In a world divided, in a time of increasing polarization at almost every level, including the Church, the solutions we seek are to be found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Peace, good will, unity, and salvation are intertwined. Each has their source in the Babe of Bethlehem, the Christ of Calvary.

Next May, the Bishops, Clergy and Lay delegates from across the Traditional Anglican Church will gather at our first General Synod. It will be a time to focus on mission and ministry, on unity and ecumenical dialogue. The diversity of our global Church will be evident, as will the unity we share in our common faith, common mission, and common goals. I would ask for your prayers leading up to our General Synod. I would ask you to pray that we may be one; and that our unity may prove to be a catalyst for the unity of the broader Continuing Anglican Church. Let peace, good will, and unity be our mission, our focus, in 2025.

A joyous and blessed Christmas to you all!

The Most Reverend Shane B. Janzen, OSG, DD
Primate of the Traditional Anglican Church