

The Anglican Church of Canada
Diocese of Athabasca
From the Bishop

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To: Each Beloved Disciple of Christ in the Diocese of Athabasca

Re: Christmas, 2025

Dear Loved One of our Lord and Saviour:

Greetings to you in the name of the Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

It is easy to get dismayed as we pay attention to the happenings of the world. Conflicts and fighting in Ukraine continue, and in Sudan, the Middle East, the Arab States, and now in the United States and the Caribbean. Our country is in an economic struggle with our largest trading partner, the United States. These “far off events” have affected us – prices have gone up, markets have changed, many are feeling hardships of hunger in a time of cold. The world has become a very uncertain place.

All through human history, there has been evil at work, hardship, fighting, anxiety. And yet, we do not live in uncertainty and dismay. We are foreigners in such a land, for our home, our true home, is the certainty of salvation in Christ and everlasting joy with our Dearest Father In Heaven.

2,000 years ago, our Saviour was born into a world very much like what we are living in today, with the only difference being changes in technology. Our Anointed Saviour came to teach us the Way of Life, that we may follow in health, wholeness, completeness, love. He lived (and lives!) with us, sharing our meals, our homes, our lives. He knows when we suffer and encourages us in the midst of it. He killed death, so we need not fear anything on this earth, ever again. He came and proclaimed that the Kingdom of God is very near, and it has foundations of love – love of God, love for you, and love for your fellow humans.

This Christmas, may the love and joy of our Dearest Father fill your heart. May the care and companionship of Christ surround you with His presence. Through the Holy Spirit, may you receive and walk in His love, now and forever more.

With love in Christ;

+ David

David Greenwood, Bishop