



Advent Christmas Greetings 2018

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, (Luke 2:7a)

The Gospel account of the birth of Jesus, is so filled with wonderful imagery. All of it has built into it a depth of truthful story that has survived centuries. No matter how many times you may have heard it or read it or “in depth” studied the narrative, there is always more to find and realize anew.

And so every year, we in the church, work our way through Advent to the celebration of Christmas Eve, and the Days of Christmas. For me, and I am sure for many others, this time becomes a time to re-birth Jesus in our hearts, and to rekindle, or discover anew, his importance to us in our faith life. For most of us, it seems the season comes and goes too fast.

Author, Ann Weems, wrote in her book, *“Kneeling in Bethlehem”, “Later after the angels, after the stable, after the child, they went back... as we always must... back to the world that doesn’t understand our talk of angels and stars and especially not the Child. We go back complaining that it doesn’t last. They went back singing praises to God!”*

The glorious part of church life, of spiritual life, of being a seeker in this life, is that we continue on in our lives of learning and exploring, the birth, life, death and resurrection of “the Child”.

Jesus in the manger causes our hearts to reach out to him and in doing so come close to the heart of God. God wants us to know Jesus’ love. God’s Heart speaks to our hearts, through Jesus.

My prayer for all, is that this Christmas, we be renewed in the love God has made known to us through Jesus.

And once Christmas comes and goes once again, the spirit of the Christ Child will remain long after the wrapping, and presents and tree are put away.

I invite you to come into this beautiful season once again. Come to worship at church. Welcome the newborn King. Savour every moment of it, so the impact of a well found season will carry you into another blessed year.

May Peace and Joy be with you and yours at this Blessed Time of year,

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The Life and Work of the Churches

Sundays at 9:15 & 11:00am	Worship Services at Trinity Hastings and Roseneath
Sunday December 16	Sacrament of Holy Communion at both churches
Monday December 24	Christmas Eve Family Worship Services
	Hastings 5:30 pm Roseneath 7:00 pm
Sunday December 30	9:15 & 11:00am Worship at Hastings and Roseneath