



Dear friends and families of Zion,

I pray that this Christmas greeting finds you well and joyful with anticipation of Christ's birth. For any of you that aren't aware, I am recovering from Covid 19 quite nicely. Thanks be to God. I want to thank everyone for their prayers and kind gestures of care during my 14 day quarantine.

As you can see in the painting, Mary is laboring to be comfortable as she travels to Bethlehem to give birth to the hope of the world. This year, I believe all of us are suffering from labor pains as a result of racial unrest in our country, people out of work, political turmoil and Covid 19. Unlike Mary, we cannot see an end to our struggles, particularly with Covid 19. I would like to remind us all of Mary's words. "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior....." Much like us, Mary has no idea of what is to come over the next nine months. She completely puts her trust in God and knows she will be protected and all will be well. I'm quite sure she knows that this time will not be without struggle and sacrifice. She rides on in faith with Joseph leading her. My dear beloved people of God, so must we.

We have so much to be thankful for as a community of faith. All of our ministries have continued. We haven't missed a beat. We are currently virtual, however, our Christian education and services will return to in-person status as soon as it becomes safe for us to do so.

*I am delighted to tell you about a new service available to all of you that don't have internet access. You may call this number **570-393-2180** and listen to our services : Wednesday morning prayer, Saturday evening service and Sunday service **from your PHONE!!** When you call, the service will be set up to call you Wednesday morning at 9:00 for morning prayer, 5:30 Saturday evening for Saturday night service and 9:00 Sunday for Sunday morning service. If you don't want to listen any of those times, simply don't pick up your phone!! This gives more people an opportunity to hear God's word.*

I want to thank everyone for continuing to send in your tithes and offerings. Zion's ministries depends on all of us. I am anxiously awaiting the day when we can HUG again! I so miss hugs from the children of Zion. Please give them all one from me. May God continue to give us patience to wait prayerfully for the day we get to see each other face to face in a church service . Please stay well and safe. Merry Christmas and a blessed, healthy New Year.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Cindy.....(and my clan)
Corinne, Colin, Hardy and Gabriel.*

Let us all ride on as Mary did.....in faith.