

## Christmas 2009

Dear Ones,

The coming of a great light to dispel human darkness has been the cornerstone of Christmas proclamation throughout the centuries. It is indeed a universal idea in the heart of every spiritual tradition.

*The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined. [Isaiah 9:2-3]*

These powerful words of the prophet, Isaiah, are the centerpiece of the gospel of Matthew's proclamation that the birth of Jesus was the fulfillment of the Messianic Promise. Isaiah's words of hope, spoken so long ago, are needed even more today.

While we may not always truly know where one's life may be sitting today – in light-hearted celebration of the season, or in the darkness of sadness from loss, fear or uncertainty – we do share and support one another in a bond of love and prayer.

As a country and a planet, we are collectively living in a nebulous time, burdened with fear and uncertainty. I am convinced that we need a new Messianic Vision of Light, to dispel that collective cloud of fear and darkness. Though our human race may now seem to be walking in darkness, we are reminded that unto us a light has shined!

Let's look up and embrace this light! It carries a message of love and peace, and proclaims a new order of the ages that transcends nationality, religion and all differences.

Dear One, I know that the holidays can heighten the difficulties and losses in some of our lives. Please, accept our prayers: *May your soul open to a brilliant new Christ light, illuminating your darkest hour.*

*I invite you to hold a sacred space for this planet earth and all its inhabitants.  
May all people be safe and free!  
May the New Year bring new blessings to you and your loved ones!*

In Christ light,

  
Rev. Festus