Dearly beloved friends and family,

"A Light from on high will dawn upon us and visit us, to give Light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death..."

Luke 1:78,79

"A Light for revelation to the Gentiles, to declare what was before unknown...that the secret thoughts and purposes of many hearts may be disclosed."

Luke 2:32,35

It is in all verity two thousand years since the birth of Jesus Christ. Prior to His birth the world lay in darkness. Much of the present world is still incarcerated in darkness. St. John relates concerning Jesus, "In Him was Life and the Life was the Light of men, and the Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it." (John 1:4,5) "There it was, the true Light coming into the world, that illumines every person." (John 1:9)

As we come to the season of hope and the time of Light which always typifies Christmas, we shall see lights go up everywhere and joy, love, and peace will virtually become audible and palpable. In my book, Surgery of the Soul, which is again printed in a new edition and available through Christian Medical Foundation, I describe cancer as a darkness which it truly is, microscopically. Jesus gives Light to those who "sit in darkness and in the shadow of death." Patients with cancer and those who have melancholia (depression) are among those who so often are in darkness and in the shadow of death.

"Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord, and by Thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of Thy only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ." This prayer from the Book of Common Prayer voices the petitions of all people who are in darkness and illness both night and day.

Christian Medical Foundation has existed for almost four decades with the avowed purpose to bring Christ's love, His Light, and His healing to those who find themselves in darkness and hopelessness. We do not know how His Light comes forth nor do we know how His Healing Light dispells sickness. We simply know that when Jesus comes into the sick room or into Intensive Care, no matter how serious the situation, He fills us, doctor, nurse, and patient, with His hope and healing virtue.

Apparently, God does not countenance man dying as a result of illness. Otherwise, why would Jesus have characteristically healed all who came to Him? "When He went ashore and saw a great throng of people, He had compassion [pity and deep sympathy] for them and cured their sick." Matthew 14:14) "When evening came they brought to Him many who were under the power of demons, and He drove out the spirits with a word, and restored to health all who were sick." (Matthew 8:16)

Doctor Rebecca Beard wrote concerning death that man should die well and not in sickness. Let us therefore, at Christmas, resolve to seek as never before the wondrous Light of Christ, His compassion, His healing, His joy, and His peace.

Christian Medical Foundation is at a point of transition this Advent. Our trust and our hope is in Jesus and in Him and in the Father and in the Holy Spirit as we press on. For those who love us and love Christian Medical Foundation and its mission, please pray for us and, if and when you can, lend your support to the Foundation in its Light bearing, healing endeavors.

"O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed, We sing Thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O giver of Life And to be glorified through all the worlds."

- Book of Common Prayer

Wishing you, each and everyone, a blessed Advent, a Holy Christmas, and a New Year filled by the Eternal Son whom the Father sent always in us to abide. Thanks be to God who freely gives to us His wondrous kingdom. Thank-you Jesus for causing to make all things possible. Hallelujah.

[Signature]

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