**Daniel Herron** Lead Pastor & Founder The Robloxian Christians Online Church

24 December, 2019

To the congregation of The Robloxian Christians,

The birth of Christ is a beautiful thing. In the entirety of the Christian scriptures, it is one of the only clear depictions of the Kingdom of God. It is an event where lowly shepherds are joined by the richest of kings. A night where multitudes of angels sing and a weary mother delivers her newborn to the company of donkeys and swine. It reveals the place where humanity's brokenness meets God's true goodness in a perfect peace.

I urge you on this Christmas Eve to look past the Hallmark movies and dreams of Santa's soon-to-come gifts. Reach beyond the twinkling lights and the quiet hymns. For Christmas is far greater than the physical experience,

Will you think about where we have failed in our human society. The various places where God's justice has been corrupted and eroded away. Our society has in many ways abandoned the poor, and the hungry, and the prisoners of the state. We have turned our backs on refugees and foreigners when we have more than enough to give. Our churches and cathedrals have destroyed relationships with members of the lgbtq+ community with our judgemental spite. We have forgotten the lonely, the depressed, the anxious, and the bullied as we focus only on ourselves and our own state of mind.

As we rest in the great joy of Christmas, we remember that Christmas is not a joyful time for everyone. We remember that there is pain, mourning, and depression that cannot be evaded even as angels sing.

Dear friends, I do not mean to cause you guilt on this quiet Christmas Eve. Although if this letter causes you anguish or forces you to wrestle with your preconceptions of any of these groups, God may be trying to move your heart.

The greatest command is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul. The second is to love your neighbor as yourself. Love never fails. Remember that, friends – no power or judgement can stand, if only we love.

Yours in Christ,

## **Daniel Herron**