

A Message from Christy

First Coming by Madeline L'Engle

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy he came to a tarnished world of pain and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Love
with



First Coming by Madeline L'Engle speaks so beautifully to the reality that even though we sing "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to All," we live in a world fraught with suffering. The Christmas invitation is not to celebrate an illusory, magical world of peace and harmony. Rather, the invitation is to acknowledge the brokenness of our world and believe that in the midst of the brokenness a Love prevails. This Love lives within us and between us even as we experience pain, struggle and sadness. The mystery of this Love is revealed in the last lines of Madeline L'Engle's poem: "to share our grief, to touch our pain, He came with Love."

"Let every heart prepare him room." During this season, we prepare to make room for this gift of Love which heals broken hearts and calls us to compassion.

May the blessings of this Christmas Love transform our hearts,

Christy

