Christmas 2017

“I’ve got to get back to the reason” TSO

We can find the reason for the season in the song we sing this day.

“Hark! The herald angels sing”,

‘Hark’ with an exclamation point means to hear intensely. Take off your earphones and listen carefully.

‘The herald angels’. It does not mean all the angels whose name is ‘Harold’.

‘Herald’ means the angels are going to make an announcement.

‘Angels’. They ae God’s supernatural creation who protect us and bring us messages.

‘Sing’. They sing a happy song like Pharnell.

“Glory to the new born king!”

There’s a baby just born. Glory, glory, glory. Praise to the baby born. And he is a king, master of the whole world. He’s got the whole world in his hands.

“Peace on earth and mercy mild.” That is if only we accept these gifts. If everybody on earth accepts these gifts there will be peace on earth. If everybody puts down hate and harassment and bullying we will be able to be kind to one another with ‘mercy mild’.

Now comes the message the angels bring to us on earth – the reason for the season- “God and sinners reconciled.”

Everybody on earth has separated himself or herself from the loving arms of Our Father who art in heaven. This baby will make it so that we can turn ourselves around and run into the embrace of our loving Father. This baby will show us the way back. God loves us and is waiting for us with arms outstretched. This baby will make it possible for us to turn ourselves around; stretch our arms to our Father and be one with the God who loves us.

“So joyful all ye nations, join the triumph of the skies” We are so joyful at the reason for the season that we become one with the angels in heralding this message to those who await the good news.

“And with the angels host proclaim: “’Christ is born in Bethlehem”’. Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior is the name of the baby born. He is the first Christmas gift – and from God in heaven no less.

We gather in church to remind ourselves of the reason for the season. And we become the heralding gifts announcing peace, mercy and reconciliation. Let us join as Church in giving praise to our God. Listen. “Hark the herald angels sing”.

Let us echo in our own way the reason for the season – “God and sinners reconciled!”

Wow!