



Sunrise by Hersley Ven Casero

Christmas Greetings,

Celebrating the birth of Jesus the Christ has a particularly warm feeling this year. There were moments in the last two years of pandemic living when hopes had grown dim, possibilities felt immovable, and life as we knew it had gone forever.

It was a low time for our ministries until we were led to explore and find technology in a new way. Possibilities began to return with online visits and conversations. But it was not the same. The personal touch of warm bodies together interacting in a room was missing. Seeing a tear roll down the cheek and being there to offer a hug or seeing laughter break out from a story and being there to laugh along beside the storyteller. So much was missing. In these difficult times, you did not leave us and a centerpiece of each was a message of encouragement from you or an online conversation with you.

We worship a faithful God, through you we were kept with a lifeline to hope, and today we see that God had not left our earth in a pandemic state, but as God has always done through the generations, God began healing the earth, transforming the lockdowns, reducing the victims, and blowing new wind into our lives and ministry.

We feel we are starting new as we celebrate the birth of Jesus whose arrival into the world took the story of faith to radical new dimensions of hope. Our ministries have blossomed, our lives are elevated, and this Christmas we recognize that God makes all things beautiful in God's time.

Merry Christmas, Cobbie and Dessa