Merry Christmas!

It's a wonderful greeting (though, not very politically correct). The thought that we should wish each other a "merry" (joyful) season where we remember and consider all the implications of the birth of our Savior is good. Certainly better than "Happy Holidays". "Happy Holidays" is a greeting some "politically correct" person came up with so as to "include" more people and "offend" less people. In that, "Christmas" was relegated to the same level and forced to share its special joy and glory with many other "Holidays" that fall around the same time on the calendar.

First of all, the other calendar events are not really "Holidays" (Holy Days) in the same way that Christmas is. I can think of no other event more "holy" between man and God (except for the crucifixion of Christ) than the advent and birth of the Savior of the world. The other events referred to would better be described as "festivals" or "celebrations". Even Hanukkah is not so much a "holy day" as it is a festival of a great remembrance. What, then, could be greater or more holy than the Holy and Righteous Creator of the universe "coming" to us; even taking on our flesh to be with and even BE one of us in order make us holy and reunite us to Himself? "Christmas" is rightly exclusive to "Christ" and should share its joy with no one nor no other thing than Christ. It is about Him and no other. He came on that first Christmas to be with us. He continues to come to us and be with us in His Word and Sacraments, and He will physically come back one more time on the last day to take us to be with Him forever and ever AMEN!

O Come, O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home:
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

So, Merry and Joyful Christmas indeed! May your heart rejoice that your loving Savior has come, continues to come, and will come to you and me; Emmanuel – God with us, then, now, and forever. AMEN

Pastor Wirtz