

# ADVENT 2010: AN ANGELIC BREAKTHROUGH

At Christmas we are especially looking for the breakthrough between God and us. The angelic breakthrough of "peace on earth, good will to men and women" is something that everyone of us need. How do we move out of the routine of eat, sleep, work, wash the dishes, pay the bills and do it all over again? How do we have an epiphany that gets us past the wounded nature of our human experience. The peppermint, pine cones and candles can transform us into the spiritual being we truly want to be if we let them.

## First Step

Luke 1:26-35

Isaiah 54:10

## Step In

"Good things come in small packages." Julie Andrews sang about this idea in a song entitled "My Favorite Things." None of the things she sang about came wrapped up in a box with ribbons and bows, yet they endured for a very long time. What are some of your favorite unwrapped "gifts"?

## Step Up

Christmas reminds us that Jesus is more than just a friend we can turn to when we are seeking a listening ear, more even than a prophet. Jesus is truly the "gift that keeps on giving." His birth transforms how we engage with the world.

What would happen if we began to think of each task and encounter, no matter how mundane, as a gift from God?

What would it look and sound like, as we opened each gift?

## Step Out

It has been said that "the peace of Christmas is not a mere absence of strife, but the active experience of a harmony with God that promotes total well-being regardless of circumstance."

What spiritual disciplines can we use to "practice peace"?

How might we share that gift of peace with others?

## Sermon Notes

Phone: 727-595-2581 ext. 243

Website: [www.anona.com](http://www.anona.com)

E-mail: [richard@anona.com](mailto:richard@anona.com)