

Christmas Unbounded

The first Christmas
In Bethlehem of Judea
In the days of Herod the King
A warfare society with military rule
Conquerors, a disrupted world
Danger of travel but census mandates travel
Meal in a stable cum nursery
It was a meagre Christmas
Parents, Joseph and Mary Davidson
Sang with the angels
Jesus the Saviour was born

Christmas 1920
In Molotchna, Ukraine, Russia
Hunger and famine prevailed
Atheism dominated, dysentery ravaged
Bandits looted
Grandfather Abraham Warkentin's
Home was pillaged
Even his father's boots were confiscated
Travelling meant fleeing
It was a meagre Christmas
Yet grandfather could sing of
The birth of Christ, the Saviour

Christmas 2020
In Abbotsford, Canada
the pandemic raged, healthcare struggled
Unemployment abounded, economy collapsed
Travel forbidden or restricted
Congregating limited, social distancing enforced
Masks mandated, yet the death toll mounted
Hunger for the marginalized
It seemed a meagre Christmas
vaccine was being developed
Our homes were warm and safe and comfortable
And father Alvin Ens could sing that
Christ the Saviour was born