

Answers to 2024 Christmas Cryptograms

1. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. — Luke's version
2. On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me six geese a-laying and a whole bunch of other stuff I'll have to find places for. — black Friday
3. When it snows, ain't it thrilling,
Though your nose gets a chilling.
We'll frolic and play, the Eskimo way,
Walking in a winter wonderland. — kids' version
4. Frankincense to offer have I.
Incense owns a deity nigh.
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. — in the air
5. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far. This was the angel saying "Noel" with the shepherds. But weren't the magi coming west toward the star? Where was this star, anyway? — disorienting noel
6. Therefore, Christian men, be sure.
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye, who now will bless the poor
Shall yourselves find blessing. — kingly song
7. The tricky thing about truth, beauty and goodness is that, for all their supposed timelessness and objectivity, not everyone agrees on what is actually true, beautiful and good. — Emma Green
8. Did nobody in the industry ever wonder, "Where are those hundreds of thousands of tons of plastic that we put into cosmetics going every year?"— Richard Thompson
9. Even if most commercial passengers are aware, on an intellectual level, that the skilled but underutilized pilots in the cockpit are mostly being paid to drink coffee, the idea of fully autonomous flight will require some acculturation. — Gideon Lewis-Kraus
10. When a clown moves into a palace, he doesn't become a king. The palace becomes a circus.
— Turkish proverb
11. Growing up is always a loss—a loss of an enchanted way of seeing, at the very least—and for some people growing up is more of a loss than for others. — Rivka Galchen
12. Institutions and government leaders can be empowered to be agents of democracy when they are given that push from below. — Rachel Beatty Riedl [*Science News* 10-19-24]
13. I know from professional—and, unfortunately, personal—experience that people mostly tend to threaten because they want to live rent-free in your head, impacting the way you live even if they never come near you. — James Comey, former FBI Director