

Market Commentary

By Art Cashin

Prepared by UBS Financial Services Inc

'Tis two days before Christmas
and at each brokerage house
The only thing stirring
was the click of a mouse

Down on the Exchange
the tape inches along
Brokers bargained and traded
as they hummed an old song

Markets spooked the Fed
so they had to stand pat
And stocks rose to a record
since they really liked that

The Nats took the Series
and the Pats took the Bowl
Tiger Woods won the Masters
with the ball in the hole

Hong Kong saw protests
and Paris did too
While the Mueller Report
turned up little that's new

A Paris Cathedral
nearly burned to the ground
While the issue of Brexit
is still hanging around

Emperor Akihito
stepped down from his throne
And some Saudi production
was cut by a drone

The House voted impeachment
the Prez says it's a hoax
But it's all become wearing
on lots of us folks

From Epstein to Weinstein
There was little to cheer
But it's Christmastime, Alice
and Santa is near

So stop looking backwards
have a cup of good cheer
And kiss you a loved one
raise your hopes for next year

And amidst all the trading
Christmas themes we will heed
And share our good fortune
with families in need

And Tuesday they'll pause
as we wait on the bell
To sing a tradition
a song for old "Nell"

Don't let this year's problems
impede Christmas Cheer
Resolve to be happy
throughout the New Year

And resist ye Grinch feelings
let joy never stop
Put the bad at the bottom
keep the good on the top

So count up your blessings
along with your worth
You're still living here
in the best place on earth

And think ye of wonders
that light children's eyes
And hope Santa will bring you
that Christmas surprise

So play ye a carol
by Mario Lanza
Unless you are waiting
to celebrate Kwanzaa

Hanukkah's just started
but Ramadan's gone
Different folks, different holidays
yet each spirit lives on

Whatever your feast is
we hope you all still
Find yourself just surrounded
by folks of goodwill

Tuesday, as the bell rings
hark to your heart's call
And as Santa would shout
Merry Christmas to All!

Trivia Corner

Answer - The Three Kings were: Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar - bringing Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

Melchior (Emperor of Arabia = gold); Caspar (King of Tharsis = Frankincense) and Balthazar (King of Ethiopia = Myrrh). Their names and identities did not appear in general circulation until centuries after the first "Epiphany."

Bonus Answer - "Twas the Night Before Christmas" was originally published under what name: A Visit from St. Nicholas

Publication Schedule

Given her legendary organizational skills, Wonder Woman has been drafted by the North Pole Elves to manage sleigh packing and post event debriefing. Therefore, there will be no Comments December 24th through December 27th

May you and all you hold dear find Christmas in your heart, in your home and in your whole world!
Peace on Earth to all of good will!

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