

MY GREETINGS AT CHRISTMAS

I salute you:

There is nothing I can give you which you
have not got; but there is much, very much
that, while I cannot give it, you can take.

No heaven can come to us unless our hearts
find rest in today.

Take heaven!

No peace lies in the future which is not
hidden in this present little instant.

Take peace!

The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind
it, yet within our reach, is joy.

Take joy!

There is radiance and glory in the darkness
could we but see; and to see, we have
only to look.

I beseech you to look!

And so at this time I greet you;

Not quite as the world sends greetings, but
with the prayer

That for you now and forever

the day breaks, and

The shadows flee away.

Fra Giovanni
A.D. 1513