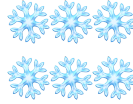


## TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRYPTOGRAMS



The numbered messages below have been encoded from some original texts by replacing each letter consistently by a different one throughout the message. Thus, for example, GLOOMY TIME could turn into CHEERS WORK, with G becoming C, L becoming H, M becoming R, etc. Different messages have different encodings. Your job is to discover the original texts. Sometimes, but not always, strings in an encoded message can give hints about the true message. Long messages are often easier to decode than short ones, because there are likely to be common words in them, such as “the,” “and,” “that,” etc. The messages are not necessarily listed in order of increasing difficulty. The first few messages have a holiday theme; they get more secular later. Good luck, and have fun.

Answers are available from [wright@uoregon.edu](mailto:wright@uoregon.edu). These pages themselves, as well as puzzles and answers from previous years, can be found at <http://pages.uoregon.edu/wright/cryptos>.

1. N P S L O C D C A C D C U P L O C W N K C R E M P L D T  
W O C H O C D S W N I U S U P V U P L O C Z U C B S , X C C H U P V  
A N L R O E J C D L O C U D Z B E R X I T P U V O L . N P S B E ,  
L O C N P V C B E Z L O C B E D S R N K C M H E P L O C K , N P S  
L O C V B E D T E Z L O C B E D S W O E P C D E M P S N I E M L  
L O C K : N P S L O C T A C D C W E D C N Z D N U S . – B M X C ' W  
J C D W U E P

2. M Y I R K T H E I R O W N M S P R A H T I U W T , U N I A L K  
F M C K T K Y I I M U K T H E V K K T K W - F W N H Y V W Y O W  
D R M F K G L Y P R M S M I R K A T I L S S H ' F F R W C K I M  
S H Y O X F W P K T S M A . – G F W P Z S A H O W N

3. RXTC NU PCYRP, ONC'U NU UXZNMNCE,  
UXYGEX KYGZ CYPT ETUP O IXNMNCE.  
RT'MM SZYMNI OCW HMOK, UXT TPANDY ROK,  
ROMANCE NC O RNCUTZ RYCWTZMOCW. — ANWP'  
BTZPNYC

4. CLOUDPURSUES IT TCCSL BOWS P.  
PURSUES THUE O ASPIK UPXB.  
GLOKSL OUA GLOPEPUX, WTPRSE LOPEPUX,  
HTLEBPGPUX XTA TU BPXB. — PU IBS OPL

5. STAR KDDBAM WE HIM PHL H PSHC  
PTOIOIN OI STA AHPS, GARDIM STAY VHC.  
STOP LHP STA HINAK PHROIN "IDAK" LOST STA  
PTAETACMP. GWS LACAI'S STA YHNO UDYOIN  
LAPS SDLHCM STA PSHC? LTACA LHP STOP  
PSHC, HIRLHR? — MOPDCOAINSOIN IDAK

6. CLOTOBETO, ALTWUCWHI POI, DO UNTO.  
MOHRCL ET THIS FEUUOUUWIK,  
ZO, MLE IEM MWRR DROUU CLO FEET  
ULHRR ZENTUORXOU BWIG DROUUWIK.  
— SWIKRZ UEIK

7. HIS HANDLE HINFT GRUPH HAPHI, RSGPHE  
GFM TUUMFSBB NB HIGH, ZUA GOO HISNA  
BPXXUBSM HNYSOSBBFSBB GFM URKSDHNWNHE,  
FUH SWSAEUFS GTASSB UF VIGH NB GDHPGOOE  
HAPS, RSGPHNZPO GFM TUUM. — SYYG TASSF

8. ULU WYXYUS LW PVC LWUMAPKS COCK GYWUCK,  
"GVCKC RKC PVYAC VMWUKCUA YE PVYMARWUA YE  
PYWA YE DIRAPLT PVRP GC DMP LWPY  
TYAZCPLTA NYLWN COCKS SCRK?" — KLTVRKU  
PVYZDAYW

9. BABY ME PILO GIPBUGMCT XCLLBYKBUL CUB  
CFCUB, IY CY MYOBTBGOHCT TBABT, ORCO ORB  
LZMTTBN WHO HYNBUHOMTMDBN XMTIOL MY ORB  
GIGZXMO CUB PILOTS WBMKY XCMN OI NUMYZ  
GIEEBB, ORB MNBC IE EHTTS CHOIYIPIHL  
ETMKRO FMTT UBVHMUB LIPB CGGHTOHUCOMIY. —  
KMNBIY TBFML - ZUCL

10. MXHP I TRUMP DUCHY OPSU I VIRITH, XH  
GUHYP'S WHTUDH I NOPE. SXH VIRITH  
WHTUDHY I TOATLY. — SLANOYX VAUCHAW

11. STRINGS BY NE UFIUVE U FREE-U FREE RA  
UG WGLOUGPWH IUV RA EWWNGS, UP POW KWTV  
FWUEP-UGH ART ERDW YWRYFW STRINGS BY NE  
DRTW RA U FREE POUG ART RPOWTE. - TNKXU  
SUFLOWG

12. BONKBKAKBSON WOE CSXIUOHIOK RIWEIUN LWO  
FI IHMSTIUIE KS FI WCIOKN SP EIHSLUWLD  
TYIO KYID WUI CBXIO KYWK MANY PUSH FIRST.  
- UWLYIR FIWKKD UBIER [NLBIOLI OITN 10-  
19-24]

13. X FUEL ITEA GTEIRYYXEUCW-CUP,  
NUIETHNUCHRWD, GRTYEUCW-RKGRTXRUBR HOCH  
GREGWR AEYHWD HRUP HE HOTRCHRU MRBCNYR  
HORD LCUH HE WXZR TRUH-ITRR XU DENT ORCP,  
XAGCBHXUJ HOR LCD DEN WXZR RZRU XI HORD  
URZRT BEAR URCT DEN. - SCARY BEARD,  
IETART IMX PXTRBHET