Answers to 2016 Christmas Cryptograms

1. Christians, awake, salute the happy morn whereon the Saviour of the world was born. Rise to adore the mystery of love which hosts of angels chanted from above. With them the joyful tidings first begun of God incarnate and the Virgin's Son. — John Byron

2. While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around. "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind, "glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind." — Wool gathering

3. Ding dong! Merrily on high, in heav'n the bells are ringing. Ding dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen, and "Io, io, io!" by priest and people sungen. Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! — Renaissance tune

4. What do you call a reindeer with earmuffs? Anything you like. He can't hear you.— Kid stuff

5. O, Frosty the snowman was alive as he could be, and the children say he could laugh and play just the same as you and me. Thumpetty thump thump, thumpety thump thump, look at Frosty go. Thumpetty thump thump, thumpety thump thump, over the hills of snow. — White magic

6. Good King Sourkraut looked out on his feets uneven, where the snoo lay round about. Snoo? What's snoo? Not much. What's snoo with you? — Walt Kelly

7. Myrrh is mine. Its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom. Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying sealed in the stone-cold tomb. — Compare rhyme spellings

8. I can no longer wait in a grocery store line, or linger for a traffic light, or even pause long enough to let a bagel pop from the toaster, without reflexively reaching for my smartphone. — Timothy Egan

9. Our brains are perfectly evolved for the pleistocene, but are not as well suited for the risks we face today. If only climate change caused sharp increases in snake populations, then we'd be on top of the problem! — Nicholas Kristof

10. The moving power of mathematics is not reasoning but imagination. — Augustus De Morgan

11. We seem to have no trouble demanding that moderate muslims condemn the radicals, but we're less impressive when it comes to moderate Americans taking a stand against our own extremists. — Kathleen Parker

12. I am a little cautious ... when I try to attack some problem because the problem can attack back. — John Forbes Nash Jr.

13. We must picture hell as a state where everyone is perpetually concerned about his own dignity and advancement and where everyone has a grievance. — C. S. Lewis

14. People, remember always to expect an unexpected — Surprise!