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ready for christmas?

John Zinkand
Dordt College

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ready for christmas?

by John Zinkand

day after thanksgiving, kickoff
for christmas countdown.
shopping days till xmas no longer
differ from the actual count
for sundays have joined the ranks.
no rest for days of rest.

from now till then
time grows short to get
your bargains from santa, elves, reindeer
all enlisted in mammon's army
(salvation's out in the cold)
tinsel, tree, canes (cardboard peppermint)
all are ready for christmas
or "holidays" for those who
don't want to offend merchants
of different faith or none at all.
yet all confess the christmas creed:
(established well, empirical fact)
gullible public, cash, card in hand
is ready to buy something, most anything
cheap, expensive, gaudy, pretty,
practical, worthless, unwanted—
whatever—they want to buy it—
thank god, for they all are
ready for christmas.