

Fourth Sunday in Advent, Love

December 18, 2022



The Golden Pilgrimage by Carmelle Beaugelin

Fourth Sunday in Advent, Love

A Service of Lessons and Carols

arr. Hal Hopson

December 18, 2022

Please silence your cell phones during this time of worship.

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

The Thematic Interpretation

The root word of “generation” is “gen,” meaning “origin” or “birth.” Our theme is also a call to action: What are we being called to generate or bring forth? What have your ancestors and others who have come before you passed on for you to continue? Who are the spiritual elders in your community who planted the seeds for the things that are now blooming? What seeds are you planting for the future? From Generation to Generation... reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. In the midst of narratives and rhetoric designed to divide us, what does it look like to practice belonging to one another? The work of God is always unfolding— in and through us. This Advent season, how will we carry it forth?

The Greeting

Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair

The love of the Christ child be with you. **And also with you.**

The Prelude

String Quartet

Concerto Grosso, op. 6, no. 8, Corelli

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath, Love

Chancel Choir Family

***The Congregational Carol**

Congregation

O Come, All Ye Faithful, No. 173

Stanzas 1 and 2- Congregation and Choir, Stanza 3 - Choir Only, Stanza 4- All

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-7

The Choral Reflection

Chancel Choir

God Walked in Eden's Garden Fair

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 1:16-18

The Prayer of Confession

Rev. Susan Reed

God of yesterday and God of tomorrow, you say, “ Love one another, as I have loved you”. But we confess, we find it difficult to love. It is a risk that calls us to be vulnerable; and thus, makes us uncomfortable. It is risky to love. God of yesterday and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that you love us. We know in our minds that you have told us you love us. Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving you only a portion of who we are. In your mercy, remind us that it is more important to know where we are going than where we have been. As we move forward along our Advent journey, help us to love others as we love ourselves. Thanks be to God, there is room enough for every story. Amen.

The Words of Forgiveness

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! God has thrown the door wide open and said,“ Come on home my beloved, there is room for you here”! In those words of welcome, **we are blessed**. In that moment, **we are forgiven**. **In that moment, we are seen, healed, and welcomed-home**. So, rest in this good news: you are loved and saved by grace!

*The Congregational Carol

Congregation

The God of Abraham Praise, No. 66

Stanza 1 Choir only, Stanzas 2-3 Choir and Congregation

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

The Choral Reflection

Chancel Choir

Comfort, Comfort, O My People

The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-4,6-9

The Choral Reflection

Chancel Choir

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35,38

***The Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair

***The Postlude**

Jonathan Oblander

Hallelujah Chorus, G.F. Handel

*We extend a warm welcome and a word of appreciation to our string quartet today:
Kim Tichenor and Andrea Daigle- violins; Meghan Casper- viola; Alan Ohkubo- cello.*

This musical endeavor is made possible by the V.V. Cooke Foundation.

Prayer Concerns

Sympathy to the family of Mike Gray in the death of his sister-in-law, Bonnie Gray

Sympathy to Reba Cobb in the death of her brother-in-law, Paul Allison

Jean Henry, recent surgery

Dorothy McLaren, recent hospitalization

Sharkey Arnett, health concerns

Dick and Lucille Brown, health concerns

Ben Thomas, health concerns

David McMullin, brother of Jean Henry, health concerns



The new semester begins the week of January 9.

*Individual lessons are available for
flute, guitar, trumpet, violin, voice,
and piano.

*Group lessons include acrylic and watercolor painting
for adults and children, creative movement (ages 7-10),
preschool "Music in Me" (ages 3-5), and ballroom dancing
(adults). Stretch your creative wings in 2023! The Academy is
for all ages and abilities.



Advent Worship and Music Calendar

December 24, Christmas Eve Services, 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.

On December 24, join us for a 15 minute pre-service Christmas Recital featuring
BBC Organist, Jonathan Oblander! This will take place before the 5 p.m.
and 11 p.m. services.

December 25, a simplistic Christmas Day Service

Year-end Contributions

Please make sure your 2022 contributions are received in the church office by noon on Friday, December 30, or postmarked by Saturday, December 31. Anything received or postmarked after December 31 will be considered a 2023 contribution. If you are making a prepayment for your 2023 pledge, please note that on your check. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Sanders in the church office.

Save the Dates!

Canasta Night- January 6 at 6 p.m.

Deacon Ordination- January 11

Chili Cookoff and Parent Meeting- January 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Enneagram Weekend- January 20-21

Youth Trivia Night- February 4

Spring Missions Sale- March 3-4

Women's Spring Luncheon- March 18

The Golden Pilgrimage (Cover Art)

Imagine the whispers in the town of Bethlehem. The relatives of Mary and Joseph, curious about the absence of the soon to be young mother, grateful to have a sense of distance from the silent scandal of an unwed wife and a man who remains with her in her apparent dishonor. Members of the community whispering of Herod's increasing anxiety over the birth of one of their own. Those learned in the ways of the stars gazing up to search the dark skies for a prominent golden orb, over which the elders have been speculating.

The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the pilgrimage of three distinguished individuals to the newborn revelation of God revealed in the Christ child. Whether there were only three wise men, or kings, or Magi does not matter. However many of them made the harrowing pilgrimage to the newborn Jesus, they were most likely foreigners and outsiders.

Often the community we begin a journey with is not the same community that supports us throughout our journey's length. The Golden Pilgrimage depicts the kind of surrogacy that occurs when a friend, a sibling, a neighbor, a father, or a pastor steps in as a much-needed friend. Even in the story of our Savior's birth, it is not a matter of whether blood is thicker than water. Instead, what matters are the bonds that tie a community together when love and acceptance flow like the healing frankincense and myrrh of the gift-bearers.

Advent Theme 2022



FROM
GENERATION
TO GENERATION...
There's room for every story

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**How will you retell this generational story for the people in your extended family?
How can you include more than just your nuclear family within your story for future generations?**

Our promise to each other:

We pledge ourselves to be the family of God for you in this place. We offer you our love, our care, our kinship, and our hopes. We hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you by God's grace.

Broadway Baptist Church

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Partnered with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

This worship service is being live-streamed, recorded, and archived at broadwaybaptist.org/worship.