

# Christmas Day December 25, 2022



*He Qi, Nativity, 2013*

# Christmas Day Service

December 25, 2022 at 11:00 A.M.

Theme: *From Generation to Generation*

*There is Room for Every Story*

## 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 hope, peace, joy, and love of the Christ Child be with you. **And also with you!**

## The Prelude

Jonathan Oblander

*Divinum Mysterium*, T. Frederick Candlyn

## The Call to Worship

Ann Hale

One Voice: I have good news!

**All Voices: Christ is born!**

One Voice: God has come. We are not alone.

**All Voices: Let us celebrate that good news. Let us dwell with God!**

One Voice: Joy is alive! God is here.

**All Voices: Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Carol

Congregation

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*, No. 157

## **The Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Susan Reed

Holy God, We admit—we don't fully understand the Christmas story.

We are not familiar with angel choruses.

We have not walked many miles to be counted in a census, and we don't always hear your voice in our dreams. We don't fully understand this story, so we admit, sometimes we hesitate to tell it.

Instead of running out into the streets to shout that there is a love bigger than we could imagine, we whisper this good news.

Instead of throwing open the doors and inviting people in, we simply leave them unlocked, hoping folks will figure it out.

Instead of telling the next generation why this night matters so much, we stay quiet, afraid of creating pressure. Forgive us for our silence. Forgive us for our hesitation. Forgive us for the moments when we fail to share your good news.

Plant this story of love so deep in our bones that we cannot help but share it from generation to generation. Amen.

## **The Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Susan Reed

**No matter where we go, no matter what we say, no matter what we do, we belong to God. We are held. We are loved. We are forgiven.**

**Amen!**

## **\*The Carol**

Congregation

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*, No. 155

## **\*The Gospel Lesson**

Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair

*Luke 2:1-14*

## **The Vocal Solo**

Parker Van Houten

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

## **The Homily**

Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair

## **\*The Carol**

Congregation

*Angels We Have Heard on High*, No. 152

*\*On the last line of the introduction to the carols, please stand in body or in spirit.*

**\*The Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair

**\*The Postlude**

Jonathan Oblander

*In Dulci Jubilo*, J.S. Bach

**Prayer Concerns**

Sympathy to Pat Schafer in the death of her husband, Dr. George Schafer on December 7.

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

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**

4000 Brownsboro Road | Louisville, Kentucky 40207

(502) 895-2459 | [www.broadwaybaptist.org](http://www.broadwaybaptist.org)

*Partnered with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship*

*This worship service is being live-streamed, recorded, and archived at [broadwaybaptist.org/worship](http://broadwaybaptist.org/worship).*