

**Order of worship for Sunday, December 26 UKirk at Michigan State virtual service**

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**Prelude** Angels' Carol

**Welcome** Neil Myer

**Call to Worship**

Welcome home!

***God is with us, here.***

Bring the Advent lights of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love with you.

***It's the season of Christmas.***

Let us worship the one who became flesh and dwelt among us.

***Emmanuel!***

**Hymn** Joy to the World

**Call to Confession**

Research shows that on average, humans make about 35,000 choices in a day. In the prayer of confession, we acknowledge the moments when our choices do not reflect God's love and we ask for grace. So let us pray together, trusting that God is with us in each of those 35,000 moments, cheering us on, and guiding us home. Let us pray:

**Prayer of Confession**

***We could offer welcome,***

***but we often choose judgment.***

***We could choose action,***

***but we often choose silence.***

***We could choose advocacy,***

***but we often choose comfort.***

***We could choose truth,***

***but we often choose ignorance.***

***We could choose God,***

***but we often choose ourselves.***

***Forgive us, gracious God, for the moments when we chose poorly.***

***Open our hearts to choose you, to choose community, to choose love.***

***Gratefully we pray, amen.***

**Words of Forgiveness**

Family of faith, no matter how we choose, we cannot lose God's love. It is undeserved, overwhelming, ever-present, and always with us. So may we accept God's grace, and use it as fuel for better days.

Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

No matter how many times we walk away, God always welcomes us home. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are invited. Thanks be to God, amen.

### **Passing of the Peace**

*Take out your phone and text to a church member, friend or family member - "The Peace of Christ be with you."*

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading**     Luke 2:41-52

### **Reflections**

**Hymn**     Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (video from *Engage Worship*, Used with Permission)

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### **Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer**

*Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

### **Invitation to Offer Gifts**

**Hymn**             Go Tell it on the Mountain

**Poem** *Chosen Home* by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

### **Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**         Ding Dong Merrily On High

### **Participants in today's service:**

UKirk Campus Minister: Neil Myer

Liturgists and Reflections: UKirk at Michigan State students

Pianists: Tamar Mikeladze, Alyssa Snelson

Vocals: Dr. Jadrian Tarver

Video Producer: Heather Myer

Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Words of Forgiveness, Prayer of the People liturgy  
and poem from *A Sanctified Art* Advent Resource "Close to Home"