



GATHERING

Gathering Music *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* Mike Slavik
 Gathering
 * Call to Worship
 * Song of Faith *God of Grace and God of Glory* UMH 577

ENGAGING

The Brown Bag Mystery Tour R² & The AUMC Young Ones
Children and youth of all ages and stages are welcome to come to the front of the sanctuary to hang out with Rev. Rebecca as we discover the surprise awaiting us in the Brown Bag.
 Scripture 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 | Mark 6:14-29
 Song of Faith *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing* UMH 93
 Message *I'd Rather Not*

THANKSGIVING

Call to Prayer *I Love the Lord*
 Prayers of the People
 The Lord's Prayer UMH 895
 Offering

One of the ways we give thanks to God at Avondale UMC is by meeting God's generosity with our own. The Connection Card in the bulletin is a tool for offering to God our acts of discipleship throughout the previous week. It's also a place to share with the pastor any prayer requests. As the offering plate comes your way, we encourage you to connect with your nearest neighbors.



Musical Offering *Amazing Grace* Mike Slavik
 * Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 94

CALL TO ACTION

Jesus had just sent the disciples on their first mission: go, proclaim that the kingdom is near, invite people to change their hearts and lives, cast out demons, heal the sick, and all this in Jesus' name. When word got to Herod he was not only filled with emotion but also had a powerful flashback of his relationship with another prophet who'd invited him to change his heart and life many times. Instead of seeing Jesus presence and ministry as a second chance from God he felt convicted and said once more, "I'd rather not." The disciples would have shaken the dust off their feet in response. Take a moment to reflect on your life. What are the invitations God has sent your way, but you've responded, "I'd rather not" because the change would have been too hard? What are the second chances God has already and continues to offer you? What might happen if instead of responding, "I'd rather not," you replied, "I'd rather. I'd rather change than remain the same"?

