

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Third Sunday in Lent)

March 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

(Philippians 2:12-13, NIV)

†

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus warns us: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven."

P: Holy Spirit, lead us to do the will of God here on earth so we may enter the kingdom of heaven.

L: Jesus likens everyone who hears His teaching and puts them into practice to a wise man.

P: Lord, make us wise disciples who are not just hearers of the Word but doers as Scripture commands.

L: Apostle Paul exhorts us to demonstrate obedience as we work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

P: Loving God, work in us to will and to act in order to fulfill Your good purpose.

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

369

"Blessed Assurance"

*The Apostles' Creed

881

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 2:12-18

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"Trust and Obey"

467

OUR TIME OF PRAYER

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (in unison)

~Joys and Concerns

~General Prayers & Intercession

~The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

895

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*Doxology "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" # 95

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept our tithes and offerings, O Lord, together with our lives, to be used by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, for the expansion of your kingdom, in our local Community, and around the face of the earth, that many shall come to know your Son, Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Jackie Howard, piano

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 7:21-27

MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo

Week # 12 of Christian To The Core - Living Christian To The Core - God Is At Work In You

*CLOSING HYMN

701

"When We All Get To Heaven"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Chapel)

Saturday, March 29, 2025

7:00 a.m. Weekly Prayer Huddle (see details in announcements)

Sunday, March 30, 2025

9:30 a.m. Adult Discipleship/Sunday School (Chapel)

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)

CELEBRATIONS IN MARCH 2025

Birthdays

23 E.J. Gurile III
25 Richard Wagner
26 B.J. Baughman

Anniversaries

MINISTRY TEAM/STAFF

Ministers: The People of This Congregation
Media Team: Jessica Thomas, Daniel Onabanjo & Paul Jassogne
Media Team (Live Streaming): Lee Ann Whitmer
Church Secretary: Lee Ann Whitmer
Custodian: Jeff Byerly
Pianist: Jackie Howard
Liturgist: Greg Howard
Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
Allegheny West

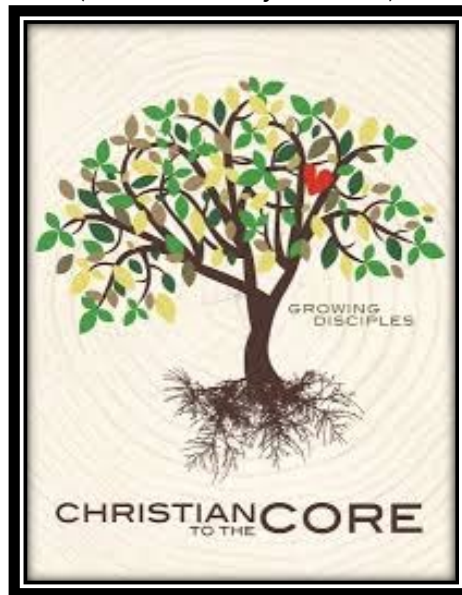
Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

March 23, 2025

(Third Sunday in Lent)



Week # 12: Living Christian To The Core - God Is At Work In You

Worship Service starts at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

Children's Church (ages 5-13) starts at 10:45 a.m.

Church Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo
Pastor's email: aaonabanjo@yahoo.com
Office email: sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com
Church: (740) 653-1196
Fax: (740) 653-6780
Website: 6thavegmc.org



Magnolia Terrace: Jane Patterson, 56

Edgewood Manor (Lucasville): Alan Fick, C3

LanFair: Mary Chilcote, 313

Luxe: Jim Funkhouser, Eckert Wing, 207A

Primrose: Bill & Doris Shauger, 121

The Ridge: Fred Beougher, 140

Continued Prayers are requested for:

Sharon Byerly, Phyllis Flowers, Ed Gurile, Clara Herrick,
Lloyd & Diann Helber, Eleanor & Bob Kane, Carl & Sharon
Mathias, Carla (Mathias), Vicki Oatney, Michael Parrish, Beth Patton,
Rod Shouldis, Kathy Starner, Don Taylor.

If you have a prayer concern or praise to share, please fill out a green prayer card found in the pew and give it to an usher before the worship service begins. Thank you for allowing us to pray for and with you!

*Please note: Names will be removed from the bulletin prayer list after three Sundays and will only be added if a new request is made.

Weekly Online Prayer Gathering: Please join our weekly online prayer gathering on Saturday mornings from 7:00-7:30am to pray together for our church, local community, our nation, worldwide and personal concerns. Simply dial the Free Conference Call # 425-436-6200 from your phone and when prompted, enter the access code 603577 followed by the # key and you will be able to participate. The gathering is open to members and friends of Mt. Zion GMC and Sixth Avenue GMC and members of the public. Text prayer requests to Pastor 'Debo at 614-296-1081 ahead of the prayer time.

New Year Message Series – Christian To The Core: We conclude our “Christian To The Core” Message Series today with the Week # 12 Sermon entitled “**Living Christian To The Core – God Is At Work In You.**” We started the 12 Week Series on January 5, 2025 and it has taken us through the **Eight Core Values** that have been identified after detailed research and prayerful discernment as foundational to living a life of faith and obedience to the Great Commission mandate of Jesus and His instruction to us to be witnesses recorded in **Acts 1:8**. The “**Christian To The Core**” Curriculum was developed by the **International Leadership Institute (ILI)** to equip leaders/disciples and promote the spread of the gospel. This aligns with the mission of the **Global Methodist Church (GMC)** to make disciples of Jesus and to spread scriptural holiness across the globe. Based on research over two years, they discerned that the best Christian leaders live by **Eight Core Values** that affect who they are and everything they do. The values are: **Intimacy with God - Passion for the Harvest - Visionary Leadership - Culturally Relevant Evangelism - Multiplication of Leaders - Family Priority - Faithful Stewardship and Integrity.**

The Message Series which ends today has hopefully given all of us a better understanding of what it means to be Christian To The Core as we follow Jesus all the way. The Week # 12 Session in the Message Series today will help tie everything together for us and remind us that Living Christian To The Core is not something that can be accomplished in our own strength but through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Even though we are wrapping up the Message Series today, our focus on developing faithful Christians To The Core will continue to be our focus for the remainder of the year with initiatives and specific opportunities to reinforce some of the teachings from the Eight Core Values. We encourage members to continue to look for opportunities to engage the available resources and stay connected to other members in Small Group settings to maximize the gains from the Message Series. Please grab a copy of the Christian To The Core Curriculum and refer to the Message Notes in today’s bulletin for more details and insight on today’s Message. **Please see our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham or Pastor 'Debo for more details on upcoming opportunities to reinforce the teaching on the Eight Core Values.**

Evangelism Team Special Announcement – Appreciation: Thanks to all those who supported the Chicken Noodle Dinner Outreach Program targeted at Guests from our Community and Members. Special thanks to those who donated cash and other materials and volunteered **If you have any questions or need information on future Evangelism Team events, please contact Lee Ann.**

Administrative Council/Leadership Retreat: This is to inform all members of the Administrative Council and those in leadership positions that there will be a Leadership Retreat on **Saturday April 5, 2025** from 9am to Noon in the Fellowship Hall. This Retreat will enable us prayerfully discern the Vision and Mission that God is calling us to embrace in this season through the guidance and leading of the Holy Spirit. The Retreat is open to every member of the Church. Please contact Pastor 'Debo or our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham if you have any questions or want to provide a suggestion or feedback for consideration at the Retreat. Thanks!

Quarterly Congregational Meeting: Please mark your calendar for the next quarterly Congregational Meeting on **Sunday April 27, 2025 after the service.** Lunch will be served. More information will be shared closer to the date. Please reach out to our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham for more details. Thanks!

Pastor’s Weekly Bible Study: We will continue our Study of the Book of Isaiah this week with focus on Chapters 51-50. We will also review the teaching for this week from our New Year Message Series. Please mark your calendar for our weekly time of study on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.



Chair Yoga: Starting Wednesday April 2, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. and every Wednesday thereafter. It’s free for all who want to enjoy time together and have some fun without the terrible thought of actual strenuous exercising. It will be fun! Just bring your favorite drink. Bottles of water will be available. Contact Lee Ann with any questions.

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services: Please mark your calendar for our special **Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday April 17, 2025 at 6:30pm and Good Friday Service on Friday April 18, 2025, at 6:30pm.** The services will be held at Mt. Zion GMC, 5495 Lancaster Circleville Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130. If you would like to sing with the Choir at both services, please contact Jackie Howard. Thanks!

Invite a Friend Sunday Dates: The “Invite a Friend Sunday” is an intentional outreach and evangelism initiative aimed at encouraging our members to live invitationally. This program is also driven by our desire to be more intentional in reaching out to others who are not yet part of the Church and in obedience to the commandment of Jesus to “GO” and make disciples of others (**Matthew 28:18-20**). The following are the dates for the “Invite a Friend Sunday” for the remainder of 2025: **Sunday June 1, Sunday August 3 and Sunday November 2.** Please mark these dates on your calendar and be on the lookout for the special cards to help you record the names of a family member, friend or a neighbor to invite.



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WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (March 23, 2025 – March 29, 2025):

(Scripture passages are from the New International Version (NIV) Bible unless otherwise indicated)

Sunday March 23 (Third Sunday in Lent)

Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:12-18; Reflection Verses: Philippians 2:12-13

“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you working out your salvation with fear and trembling?

Monday March 24

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:7-14; Reflection Verse: Philippians 3:14

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What goal are you pressing on towards like Apostle Paul? What are your challenges?

Tuesday March 25

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:15-21; Reflection Verse: Philippians 3:20

“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Do you agree with Paul that our citizenship as disciples is in heaven? Why or why not? What are you doing to ensure you reach your eternal destination?

Wednesday March 26

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:1-17; Reflection Verse: Colossians 3:1

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Is your heart set on things above or still on earthly things? Are you facing distractions?

Thursday March 27

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Reflection Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:9

“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (see **John 3:16-17**)

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How does this passage help us understand God’s perfect plans for us as followers of Jesus Christ? How does this give you blessed assurance?

Friday March 28

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-13; Reflection Verses: 2 Timothy 2:2

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you a reliable and trustworthy witness of what you have been taught? How are you committed to growing in your discipleship?

Saturday March 29

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:13-27; Reflection Verse: Matthew 7:14

“But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Have you found the small gate and narrow road that leads to life? How can you help others to also make this discovery? How is following the teaching of Jesus helpful in making this discovery?

Philippians 2:12-18

Do Everything Without Grumbling

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.”^[a] Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain. ¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. ¹⁸ So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

Matthew 7:21-27

True and False Disciples

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

The Wise and Foolish Builders

²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

MESSAGE NOTES – Third Sunday in Lent (3/23/2025)
Christian To The Core – Week # 12: Living Christian To The Core – God
Is At Work In You (Philippians 2:12-18 & Matthew 7:21-27)

“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:12-13, NIV)

An Amazing Truth: Living Christian to the Core is an adventure in the Kingdom of God, and this twelve-session journey is a beginning point to live the rest of our lives. The values are rooted in an amazing truth:

God sent Jesus to die for our sin so we might have access to the power of God by His Spirit to live for His glory.

Jesus underscores the importance of our mission in **Matthew 10:8**:
“Freely you have received; freely give.”

We began this series with a powerful statement from the prophet Habakkuk, “Look at the nations and watch — and be utterly amazed.

For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.”(Habakkuk 1:5)

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION - IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN YOU.

God is at work in us and through us. That is the conviction we share. This is God’s plan. The Christian To The Core Curriculum has given us the basics of devoted discipleship.

Expectations Fulfilled: At the beginning of this series back in January, we were asked to identify our expectations for this journey. For those who have stayed on track, they can go back to their curriculum and review how they answered the following questions on pages 13-14:

I want to learn more about

I want to learn how to

I want my spiritual life to be different by

The Eight Core Values Revisited: It would be helpful to ask ourselves as we reflect together: **“What Have You Discovered?”**

Intimacy with God is an eternal journey.

Passion for the Harvest is the eternal flame that touches our hearts and fills us with love and purpose.

A Visionary Life is a lifestyle of purpose that is uniquely crafted around our gifts and the needs of others.

Culturally Relevant Evangelism is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Multiplication of Discipleship invites spiritual fruitfulness as God uses us to implant the very life of Christ in the hearts of others.

Family Priority declares that family is the building block of all relationships and our first place of influence.

Faithful Stewardship actualizes the blessings of Christ’s Lordship over our lives and all creation.

Integrity is life lived according to design.

Reflection Questions: Of the Eight Core Values, which one has impacted your life the greatest since this journey began? Why? Of the Eight Core Values, which do you feel need to be strengthened the most in your life?

Whether we know it or not, we are all different now. “How great is the love of the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God! And that is what we are! The reason that the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.” **(1 John 3:1-2)**

Apostle Paul echoes this expectation: “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” **(2 Corinthians 3:17-18)**

As we purposefully live the Eight Core Values, we become Christian to the Core. Paul instruction to Timothy will be helpful: “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.” **(2 Timothy 2:2)**

Who will you invite alongside you on the journey? God is looking for men and women who will invest the Eight Core Values in another person’s life. If we invest in another person, then our life will never be the same.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Jesus warns us: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven."

P: *Holy Spirit, lead us to do the will of God here on earth so we may enter the kingdom of heaven.*

L: Jesus likens everyone who hears His teaching and puts them into practice to a wise man.

P: *Lord, make us wise disciples who are not just hearers of the Word but doers as Scripture commands.*

L: Apostle Paul exhorts us to demonstrate obedience as we work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

P: *Loving God, work in us to will and to act in order to fulfill Your good purpose.*

***The Apostles' Creed**

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I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell, the third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (in unison)

Amazing God, we pray that through the Holy Spirit your preferred future for Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church will be made known to us. We ask that you use us to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our friends, family, and community. Give us the courage to follow the leading of your Holy Spirit wherever that may take us. Open our eyes so that we may see the new things you are already doing among us. AMEN