

# Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Sixth Sunday of Easter)

May 5, 2024

10:30 a.m.

*"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."*

*[Ephesians 4:11-13, NIV]*



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Liturgist

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Liturgist

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Apostle Paul urged the Corinthian believers to embrace their unity in Christ and avoid divisions.

**P:** *Lord Holy Spirit, unite us in mission and remove any divisive tendencies from us.*

L: God's servants have been assigned different roles to build up and equip the Body of Christ.

**P:** *We therefore commit ourselves to planting and watering the seed while trusting God to make it grow.*

**\*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

# 577

*"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

**\*THE APOSTLES CREED**

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# 881

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.

**\*Gloria Patri**

Hymn # 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

John 15:9-17

**CHILDREN'S MOMENTS**

Rev. Doug Lynn

**HYMN**

"Be Thou My Vision"

# 451

**OUR TIME OF PRAYER**

**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.

**~Joys and Concerns**

**~The Lord's Prayer** (in unison)

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS** (We encourage you to share beyond your regular offering. The loose offering received today will go to Veteran's Burial Squad Fund.)

**OFFERTORY**

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

*"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."*



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH  
Allegheny West

## Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

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May 5, 2024

(Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Grace And Peace To You  
From God Our Father  
And The Lord Jesus  
Christ.

1 Corinthians 1-3

BibleWordings.com

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: 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo  
Pastor's cell: 614-296-1081  
Pastor's email: [aaonabanjo@yahoo.com](mailto:aaonabanjo@yahoo.com)  
Office email: [sixthgmc\\_email@yahoo.com](mailto:sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com)  
Church: (740) 653-1196  
Fax: (740) 653-6780  
Website: [6thavegmc.org](http://6thavegmc.org)

### 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

#### SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 3:1-5

#### MESSAGE

Rev. Doug Lynn

**"Know Nothing"**

#### HOLY COMMUNION (see bulletin insert or on screen)

**Prayer after Communion:** Heavenly Father, thank you for this holy mystery in which you have fed us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses in the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

# 581

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#### \*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

\*For those who are able, please stand.

#### MINISTRY STAFF

Ministers: The People of This Congregation

Media Team: Phyllis Flowers & Paul Jassogne

Media Team (Live Streaming): Lee Ann Whitmer

Church Secretary: Lee Ann Whitmer

Custodian: Jeff Byerly

Pianist: Jackie Howard

Liturgist: Greg Howard

Guest Preacher: Rev. Doug Lynn

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

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

**Thursday, May 9, 2024**

5:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

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

1:00 p.m. Mother's Day Tea Party

**Sunday, May 12, 2024**

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

**FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024**

**Birthdays**

4 Connie Cox  
5 Nathan Trogus  
6 John Mongold  
6 'Lola Onabanjo  
9 Justin Chaffin  
9 Samuel Onabanjo  
14 Alan Fick  
14 Karen Trogus  
16 Abby Tener  
18 Sam Strawn  
19 Emily Maiden  
19 Ayden Thress  
21 Ralph Bay  
24 Shirley Mowery  
25 Elizabeth Singer  
25 Grace Singer  
27 Ruth Bowland  
29 Lura Goff

**Anniversaries**

19 Jerry & Donna Dickson  
26 William & Doris Shauger  
28 Ed & Sandy Gurile  
28 John & Lou Ellen Reef  
30 Pete & Kara Reed



**Bennington Glen:** Jane Patterson

**Edgewood Manor (Lucasville):** Alan Fick, C3

**LanFair:** Mary Chilcote, 313  
Donna Ballmer, 119

**Luxe:** Elaine Hill, Sheridan Wing, 108  
Jim Robertson (Billie's brother), Sheridan Wing, 305  
Jim Funkhouser, Eckert Wing, 207A

**Main Street Terrace:** Marilyn Lawson, 36

**Primrose:** Bill & Doris Shauger, 121

**The Ridge:** Fred Beougher, 140  
Barb Cook, 103

**Continued prayers are requested for:**

Amanda Baker, Dave Bash, Sharon Byerly, Barbara Cook, John Cook, Ken Cook, Walt Fawcett, Sharon Funkhouser, Clara Herrick, Cindy, Lloyd & Diann Helber, Mykel Henderly, Dixie Hoskinson, Joan Irwin, Elizabeth Jones, Jill Jubach, Eleanor & Bob Kane, Marilyn Lawson, Carl & Sharon Mathias, Jingur Nichols, Vicki Oatney, Beth Patton, Mark & Donna Shouldis, Rod Shouldis, Kathy Starner, Don Taylor, Carl David Tripp, Kara Whitmer-Beatty, Ralph Bay, Greg & Sandie White.

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!

**Pastor's Bible Study:** This holds on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. As we continue in the Season of Eastertide, we will continue to explore some of the short Letters of the New Testament. We will start Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> **Letter to Timothy** this week with **Chapters 1-2**. Please read the chapters for this week in advance. The Bible Study is open to all members of the community. In addition to the joy of worship and fellowship on Sundays, our time together during Bible Study is always a blessing. We also spend some time to pray at the end of the Bible Study for personal and general prayer requests. Please invite a neighbor or friend and thanks for making time to attend.

**Lancaster Charge to Host Clergy Guest from Africa:** We are excited at the opportunity to host Rev. Wilton Odongo, the President Pro-Tempore of the Kenya/Ethiopia Provisional Annual who will be visiting our Conference with two other delegates, the Rev. Bonface Wanyama and Deaconess Jacklyne Atotso Kezia. The event will be held at Sixth Avenue GMC on Monday May 20, 2024 starting at 6:30pm. This is a joint event by the Lancaster Charge (Zanesville Circuit) of the Allegheny West Provisional Conference of the GMC comprising Sixth Avenue GMC and Mt. Zion GMC. The guests will be itinerating through the Zanesville Circuit and other parts of our Conference from Friday May 17 through Wednesday May 29. Please check out the information Desk for the flyer but note the summary of activities for our Circuit below:

- **Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>** from 5-7pm: Rolling Plains GMC, 3350 Moxahala Park Rd, Zanesville, OH 43701. Picnic on the lawn, Praise & Worship and Puppet Ministry.
- **Monday May 20<sup>th</sup>** from 6:00pm: Sixth Avenue GMC, 1004 W. Sixth Avenue, Lancaster, OH 43130 – Mission Night with Rev. Wilton Odongo as Guest Speaker. There will be refreshments.
- **Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup>** from 6:00pm: Hocking Hills Church, 13580 Maysville Williams Rd, Logan, OH 43138 (Across from Logan-Hocking MS) – Praise & Worship and Dessert Bar.

Please keep the expected guests and their families, host churches and both Conferences in your prayers for a successful visit to the US to build new missional partnerships. Please contact Pastor 'Debo for additional information. Thanks!

**Sixth Avenue GMC – Called Church Conference:** This serves to inform all members and friends of Sixth Avenue GMC that the Administrative Council has requested that our Presiding Elder, Rev. John Alice call a Church Conference for Sunday, May 19, 2024. Please recall that at our Charge Conference held on Sunday October 22, 2023, members voted based on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees and the Administrative Council for the sale of the Church Parsonage at 951 Pratt Avenue, Lancaster, OH 43130. This meeting has been called for the express purpose of presenting a motion before members for our Finance Team to utilize part of the proceeds from the sale of the Parsonage to meet urgent recurrent expenses to ensure that we can continue to stay on mission. All professing members are eligible to attend and vote at the meeting. Under the Transitional Book of Doctrine and Discipline of the GMC, it is provided as follows: "No real property on which a church building or parsonage is located shall be mortgaged or sold to provide for the current budget or operating expense of a local church without the approval of sixty percent of the members and the full awareness of and consultation with the presiding elder (district superintendent). We are in consultation with our Presiding Elder and look forward to having members vote to ratify the recommendation of the Administrative Council. Please be on the lookout for more information on this important meeting where other pressing matters related to next steps for our community of faith will be discussed. If you have additional questions, please contact Paul Jassogne, Administrative Council Chair, Dr. Gregg Witham, Lay Leader & Chair of Strategic Planning Team or Pastor 'Debo. Thanks!

**Weekly Online Prayer Gathering:** Please join our weekly online prayer gathering on Saturday mornings from **7:00-7:30am**. During the prayer huddle, we 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 in this special time of prayer. The gathering is open to members 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. Let us come and unite in prayer for a great move of God in our midst.

**Strategic Planning Team – Request for Prayers:** As part of measures to help our community of faith discern the preferred future that God has for us, a **Strategic Planning Team** has been set up and is headed by our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham. One of the plans we have is to hire a Church Coach to walk alongside our Church and Mt. Zion GMC to discern God's direction. Please keep this team and our church leadership in your prayers and be on the lookout for ways to support this important work. Contact Dr. Gregg Witham or Pastor 'Debo with any questions.

## Pastor's Corner:

### Embracing Unity in Diversity

*I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7, NIV)*

At the start of this chapter, Paul expressed regret that he could not address the Corinthian believers as those who lived by the Spirit but as people who were still in the world, mere infants in Christ. Paul affirmed that he gave them milk and not solid food because they were not ready and were in fact still not ready because they were still worldly. Paul then noted the fact that there was jealousy and quarrelling amongst them which was a sign of worldliness. Paul further explained the basis of his assertion that the people were worldly: *"For when one says, 'I follow Paul,' and another, 'I follow Apollos,' are you not mere human beings? What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task."* (1 Corinthians 3:1-5).

Paul stated that he as the church planter planted the seed (which is the Word of God) while Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. Paul then declares: *"The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."* (1 Corinthians 3:6-9) How are you encouraged to work together with others even when things appear challenging?

Apostle Paul continued to expound on his argument that by the grace given to him by God, he had laid the foundation as a wise builder and someone else, in this case Apollos and others were building on it. He however cautioned that the builders should build with care because no one can lay any other foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 3:10-11). What type of materials are you using to build?

The "Day" that Paul alludes to in verse 13 is the return of Jesus to judge the world. No one will be rewarded for any shoddy work when it comes to building up the kingdom of God. Paul then extended his illustration by stating that the Corinthian believers were God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in their midst and if anyone should destroy God's temple, God will also destroy that person for God's temple is sacred, *"and you together are that temple."* (1 Corinthians 3:16-17) The body of Christ according to Paul represents the temple of God where His Spirit dwells.

Paul wanted his readers to understand their heritage in Christ Jesus and urged them to remain grounded in God's ways which may at times appear to be foolishness when compared to the wisdom of this world which in reality is foolishness when compared to God's ways. Paul quoted two Old Testament Scriptures to underscore his argument on how God's wisdom exposes the wisdom of the world as foolishness (see 1 Corinthians 3:19-20 and compare with Job 5:13 and Psalm 94:11).

Apostle Paul then affirmed his readers by letting them know that all things belong to them and that even the apostles sent by God to equip them are to serve them and they should stop boasting in their leaders but instead boast in Christ Jesus to whom they belong just as Christ Himself belongs to God. Paul uses the closing of this chapter to underscore the union that believers have in one another and in the triune God. How then can we as a body of Christ leverage this union that we have in Jesus Christ to maximize our fellowship?

I am sure that the Holy Spirit will guide us as long as we intentionally submit to God's will. What blessing will be ours when we embrace unity despite our diversity.

**Pastor 'Debo**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTER DAY OR SEASON

*The pastor stands behind the Lord's table.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty (almighty God ), creator of heaven and  
earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us  
the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love  
failed, your love remained steadfast.  
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be  
our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with  
milk and honey, and set before us the way of life.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee  
for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our  
Lord, who by his death hath destroyed death,  
and by his rising to life again hath restored to us  
everlasting life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company  
of heaven we praise your name and join their unending  
hymn:

*The pastor may lower hands.*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in  
the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The pastor may raise hands.*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the  
Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew  
to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son  
from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but  
now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds  
in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his  
marvelous light.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with  
us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

*The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the bread,  
or touch the bread, or lift the bread.*

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took  
bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his  
disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is  
given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

*The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the cup,  
or touch the cup, or lift the cup.*

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new  
covenant, poured out for you and for many for the  
forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

*The pastor may raise hands.*

On the day you raised him from the dead  
he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the  
bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church  
has continued in the breaking of the bread and the  
sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in  
Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and  
thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with  
Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of  
faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come  
again.**

*The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the bread  
and cup.*

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
redeemed by his blood.

*The pastor may raise hands.*

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his  
heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in  
your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God ),  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **John 15:9-17**

New International Version

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.

## **1 Corinthians 3:1-5**

New International Version

### **The Church and Its Leaders**

**3** Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup> I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. <sup>3</sup> You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? <sup>4</sup> For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere human beings?

<sup>5</sup> What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task.

## **WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (May 5, 2024 – May 11, 2024):**

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

### **Sunday May 5**

Scripture Reading John 15:9-17; Reflection Verses: John 15:12-14

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you living into the mandate of Jesus to practice greater love?

### **Monday May 6**

Scripture Reading: John 15:18-27; Reflection Verses: John 15:26-27

“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you testifying to Jesus through the power of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit?

### **Tuesday May 7**

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Reflection Verses: 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

“I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you carrying out the task assigned to you by God? Are you being distracted by what others are doing or not doing?

### **Wednesday May 8**

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:10-23; Reflection Verses: 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person; for God’s temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: I will honor my body as God’s temple where His Spirit dwells.

### **Thursday May 9**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 133:1-3; Reflection Verse: Psalm 133:1

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can you help promote and cement unity as part of the Body of Christ?

### **Friday May 10**

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Reflection Verse: 1 Corinthians 12:7

“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: I will use my spiritual gift to bless the collective.

### **Saturday May 11**

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Reflection Verses: 1 Corinthians 12:26-27

“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Do you accept that believers are called to rejoice with those who rejoice and suffer with those who suffer? Give a practical example of how you can do this.