



**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.

**Preaching Plan During Eastertide – Trinity Sunday:** We continue in the Season of Eastertide which is the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday when we will celebrate the birthday of the Church. As previously shared, we are exploring some of the Scripture passages found in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). The RCL provides a three-year cycle of scriptural passages for use on Sundays and other major days of the Christian Year. The Lectionary follows the pattern of the Christian Year with each cycle beginning with Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas when we prepare for the coming of Christ) and ends with the last Sunday after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time or Kingdomtide (this period may include as few as 23 or as many as 28 Sundays). This Season begins with Trinity Sunday, June 15, 2025 (the first Sunday after Pentecost) and continues through the day before the first Sunday of Advent. The Sundays of this Season are designated as Sundays after Pentecost. In 2025, Cycle C, focusing on the Gospel of Luke will be used until the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2025, on which day Cycle A, focusing on the Gospel of Matthew begins. The next cycle (Year B) focuses on the Gospel of Mark. The Gospel of John is used in all three cycles during the major seasons of the Christian year. The following is a summary of the remaining weekly Messages up to Trinity Sunday (June 15, 2025):

- May 18, 2025 (Fifth Sunday of Easter) – A New Command (Acts 11:1-18 & John 13:31-35)
- May 25, 2025 (Sixth Sunday of Easter) – The Promise (Joel 2:28-32 & John 14:23-29)
- June 1, 2025 (Ascension Sunday) – Lift Off (Acts 1:1-11 & Luke 24:44-53)
- June 8, 2025 (Pentecost Sunday) – Promise Fulfilled (Acts 2:1-21 & John 20:21-23)
- June 15, 2025 (Trinity Sunday) – Life in The Trinity – Our Biblical Model (Romans 5:1-5 & John 16:12-15)

Please keep the Pastor and the Worship Planning Team in your prayers as they lead us in this Season.

**A Global Call To Prayer by GMC Assembly of Bishops – Reminder:** Because of our belief in the power of prayer to overcome whatever challenges we may face, we invite all members to please plan to join the special Global Call To Prayer by the GMC Assembly of Bishops which started on Wednesday April 30 and will take us through Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025. This is a time to intercede—especially for our brothers and sisters on the continent of Africa due to the observed violent clashes between Methodist factions in Nigeria and the broader unrest sweeping across the continent from Ethiopia to the Democratic Republic of Congo, from Mozambique and Nigeria to South Sudan, Sudan, Liberia, Zimbabwe, Niger, and Rwanda—conflict, political instability, demonstrations, terrorist activity, and civil wars persist in these countries. Please pick up a copy of the special announcement by the Assembly of Bishops at the information desk and plan to participate. We are also going to be inviting us to engage in special prayers for our community of faith as we discern practical next steps under the leading of the Holy Spirit in view of some of the challenges we are facing. Thanks!

**Pastor's Weekly Bible Study:** We will continue this week with our study of the Book of Jeremiah with focus on **Chapters 19-22**. Please mark your calendar for our weekly time of study and growing deeper on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. This Bible Study remains open to all members of the community and we also pray for personal and general requests. Please invite a neighbor/friend to join us. Thanks!

**Invite a Friend Sunday (June 1, 2025):** As part of our plan 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, we would like to encourage all members to please prayerfully discern who they would like to invite to our next Invite a Friend Sunday on Ascension Sunday, June 1, 2025. Please pick up an invite card at the Narthex to record the name(s) of those you would like to invite. We will be praying for God's Spirit to move us all to obedience in this evangelism/outreach initiative. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Ann Whitmer, Sue Griffin or any other member of the Evangelism/Outreach Team. Thanks!

**Evangelism Team News/Information:** The Evangelism Team now has enough empty containers and milk jugs and appreciates all those who helped in this drive. Please pick up a flyer at the Narthex for details on how to support their programs and reach out to Lee Ann with any questions. Thanks!

**Anniversary Celebration:** As we approach the end of our second year as a Global Methodist Church Congregation, we are delighted to share that there will be a special commemorative service to mark this important milestone. Please watch out for more details on this from the Planning Team.

# Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Fifth Sunday of Easter)

May 18, 2025

10:30 a.m.

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

*[John 13:34-35, NIV]*



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus said to Nicodemus: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,"

**P:** *"That whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

L: Jesus also said: "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

**P:** *"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."*

L: Jesus tells us that our selfless love for one another will let everyone know we are His disciples.

**P:** *Lord, grant us grace to obey the command of Jesus to love one another as He loved us.*

## \*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

## \*OPENING HYMN

# 547

*"O Church of God, United"*

## \*A Modern Affirmation

# 885

## \*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

## SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

## CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

## HYMN

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

#402

## 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** "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"  
Congregation & Jackie Howard, piano

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:31-35

## MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo  
A New Command

## \*CLOSING HYMN

# 581

*"Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"*

## \*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

\*For those who are able, please stand.

## Week At A Glance:

### Wednesday, May 21, 2025

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

12:00 p.m. Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

### Saturday, May 24, 2025

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

### Sunday, May 25, 2025

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

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

## **CELEBRATIONS IN MAY 2025**

### Birthdays

18 Sam Strawn

19 Emily Maiden

19 Ayden Thress

24 Shirley Mowery

### Anniversaries

19 Jerry & Donna Dickson

## 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

May 18, 2025

(Fifth Sunday of Easter)



## **A New Command**

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](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)

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (May 18, 2025 – May 24, 2025):

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

### **Sunday May 18 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)**

Scripture Reading: John 3:1-21; Reflection Verses: John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What did God do according to Jesus to show His love? (see **Romans 5:8**) How can you emulate the example of God through your loving and sacrificial act of generosity this week?

### **Monday May 19**

Scripture Reading: John 13:1-17; Reflection Verses: John 13:16-17

“Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can we move from knowing what is right to actually doing what is right? Where do you need to pick up the basin and towel to serve others (including our enemy like Judas who betrayed Jesus) as Jesus did?

### **Tuesday May 20**

Scripture Reading: John 13:31-38; Reflection Verses: John 13:34-35

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Who do you need to love the way you have been love by Jesus? What is stopping you?

### **Wednesday May 21**

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-17; 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 do you know you are a friend of Jesus? How are you practicing greater love?

### **Thursday May 22**

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Reflection Verse: 1 Corinthians 13:4

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you patient? Are you kind? Do you envy others? Are you boastful? Are you proud?

### **Friday May 23**

Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:1-11; Reflection Verses: 1 John 2:3-4

“We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you keeping the commands of Jesus? Where do you need the help of the Holy Spirit?

### **Saturday May 24**

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:11-24; Reflection Verse: 1 John 3:16

“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Who do you need to lay down your life for today? Why do we need to do this?

# 1 Corinthians 13

**13** If I speak in the tongues<sup>[a]</sup> of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. **2** If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. **3** If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,<sup>[b]</sup> but do not have love, I gain nothing.

**4** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. **5** It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. **6** Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. **7** It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

**8** Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. **9** For we know in part and we prophesy in part, **10** but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. **11** When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. **12** For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

**13** And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

## **John 13:31-35**

### **Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial**

<sup>31</sup> When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him,<sup>[a]</sup> God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

<sup>33</sup> "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

<sup>34</sup> "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

## 1 Corinthians 13 (New International Version)

<sup>1</sup>“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

<sup>8</sup> Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. <sup>12</sup> For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

<sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

(Extract from The Seedbed Daily Text for July 14, 2020, by Rev. John David Walt)

First Corinthians 13 must become for us, an absolute manifesto. Somehow we need to keep this text before us every day. This is not pie-in-the-sky Hallmark card idealism. First Corinthians 13 is profound realism. As an exercise of faith and bold self-examination, I want to ask you to insert your name in every blank below. Read it aloud inserting your name in each blank.

\_\_\_\_\_ is patient, \_\_\_\_\_ is kind. \_\_\_\_\_ does not envy, \_\_\_\_\_ does not boast, \_\_\_\_\_ is not proud. \_\_\_\_\_ does not dishonor others, \_\_\_\_\_ is not self-seeking, \_\_\_\_\_ is not easily angered, \_\_\_\_\_ keeps no record of wrongs. \_\_\_\_\_ does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. \_\_\_\_\_ always protects, \_\_\_\_\_ always trusts, \_\_\_\_\_ always hopes, \_\_\_\_\_ always perseveres.

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Jesus said to Nicodemus: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,"

**P: *"That whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."***

L: Jesus also said: "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

**P: *"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."***

L: Jesus tells us that our selfless love for one another will let everyone know we are His disciples.

**P: *Lord, grant us grace to obey the command of Jesus to love one another as He loved us.***

## **A Modern Affirmation**

**#885**

### **Leader:**

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

### **Leader & People:**

**We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, as the divine presence in our lives, whereby**

**we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love, as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. 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**