

# Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Ascension Sunday)

June 1, 2025

10:30 a.m.

*"They were looking intently up into the sky as he [Jesus] was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."*

*[Acts 1:10-11, NIV]*



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Pastor 'Debo

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Liturgist

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: After His suffering, the resurrected Christ presented Himself to the disciples over a period of forty days.

**P: Lord Jesus, we thank you for the many convincing proofs recorded in Scripture that you are alive.**

L: We confess that the resurrected Christ ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**P: Our ascended Lord, we await your return in glory at the time appointed.**

L: As proof of His presence with the Father, Jesus sent the promised Holy Spirit to the disciples.

**P: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will prepare ourselves and others for Christ's return.**

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

**\*OPENING HYMN**

# 154

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"*

**\*The Apostles' Creed**

# 881

**\*Gloria Patri**

Hymn # 70

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Acts 1:1-11

**CHILDREN'S MOMENTS**

Pastor 'Debo

## RECOGNITION - 2025 GRADUATION CLASS

Jessica Thomas - Fisher Catholic High School, Lancaster, OH 43130

**HYMN**

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

# 327

**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**

Jackie Howard, piano

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 24:44-53

**MESSAGE**

Lift Off

Pastor 'Debo

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**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**

"He Lives"

# 310

**\*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

\*For those who are able, please stand.

## Week At A Glance:

### Wednesday, June 4, 2025

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

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

5:00 p.m. Joint Leadership Meeting at Mt. Zion GMC

### Saturday, June 7, 2025

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

### Sunday, June 8, 2025

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

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

## **CELEBRATIONS IN JUNE 2025**

### Birthdays

1 Sandy Gurile

4 Jerry Dupler

4 Ian Smith

7 Charles Crist

### 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

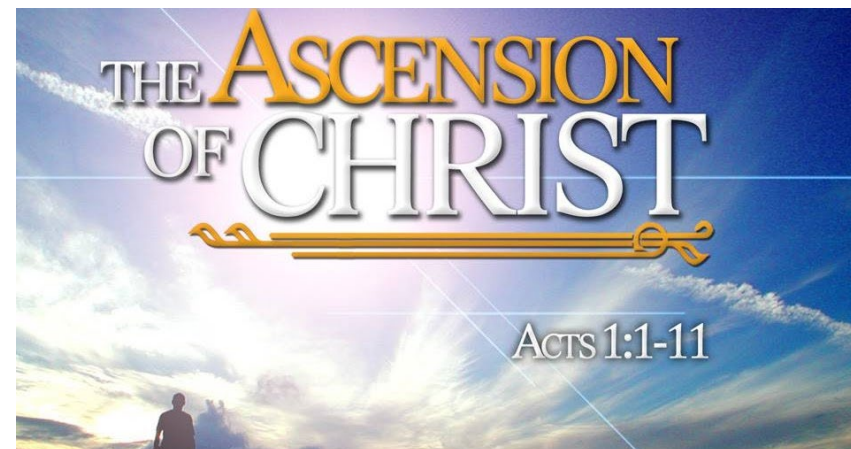
## Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

June 1, 2025

(Ascension Sunday)



### **Lift Off**

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)



**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.

**Invite a Friend Sunday (June 1, 2025):** We want to extend a special welcome to all those who have joined us for the first time today or are returning guests. "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**). Thanks to all members who invited their family, friends or a neighbor for our worship service today. We invite our guests to join us for a reception in the Narthex after service.

**Recognition of Graduation Class of 2025 – Jessica Thomas:** Jessica is graduating from **Fisher Catholic High School**, Lancaster, OH and will be attending **Ohio University** in Athens, OH in the Fall. Jessica will major in Music Education (Instrument – Flute) with a minor in Spanish. Jessica has been very helpful as a dedicated volunteer on our Media Team and assists with weekly worship. We congratulate Jessica and her family on this important achievement and wish her well as she prepares for College. There will be a reception in honor of Jessica after the service in the Narthex. Please join us in celebrating Jessica and her achievement. Congratulations!

**Membership of the Global Methodist Church (GMC) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration:** As previously announced, we are fast approaching the end of our second year as a member congregation of the GMC. This is an important milestone for our congregation and a great opportunity to thank the good Lord for how far He has brought us against all odds. We are going to celebrate together on Sunday, June 29, 2025, and we are going to have a Guest Preacher on that day. More details on this celebration service will be provided in due course by the Planning Committee. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us and invite your family and friends to come celebrate with us.

**Preaching Plan During Eastertide – Trinity Sunday:** As previously shared, next Sunday June 8, 2025, will be Pentecost Sunday when we celebrate the birthday of the Church. The Season of Eastertide which is the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday covers the 40 Days after the resurrection of Jesus when He made many appearances to His disciples until His ascension to the Father – Ascension Day was celebrated on Thursday May 29, 2025. We continue to explore some of the Scripture passages found in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) which 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 - Sundays of this Season are designated as Sundays after Pentecost. The following is a summary of the remaining weekly Messages up to Trinity Sunday (June 15, 2025):

- **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:** The ongoing Special Call to Prayer by the GMC Assembly of Bishops which started on Wednesday April 30 will end on Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025. Let us continue to intercede—especially for our brothers and sisters on the continent of Africa. On May 24, 2025, the Bishops shared with GMC members about another devastating attack on GMC members in the northern part of Nigeria which resulted in loss of lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please pick up a copy of the special announcement by the Assembly of Bishops at the information desk for more details on how we can be of support. Thanks!

**Pastor's Weekly Bible Study:** We will continue this week with our study of the Book of **Jeremiah** with focus on **Chapters 26-30**. Please mark your calendar for our weekly time of study and growing deeper on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. You are encouraged to read the chapters for the week in advance. 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!

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (June 1, 2025 – June 7, 2025):

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

### **Sunday June 1 (Ascension Sunday)**

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:36-53; Reflection Verses: Luke 24:50-51

“When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he [Jesus] lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the significance of the ascension of Jesus Christ? What does it mean for His return?

### **Monday June 2**

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11; Reflection Verses: Acts 1:7-9

“He [Jesus] said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Have you received the power of the Holy Spirit? What fruit of the Spirit are you seeing in your life (see **Galatians 5:22-23** for more insight)

### **Tuesday June 3**

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:12-26; Reflection Verse: Acts 1:14

“They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the significance of prayer (individual and corporate) in discipleship and work of ministry? How are you regularly connecting with others to pray?

### **Wednesday June 4**

Scripture Reading: Genesis 5:21-24; Reflection Verse: Genesis 5:24

“Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What lessons can we learn from the life and example of Enoch? (also see **Hebrews 11:5-6**).

### **Thursday June 5**

Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-18; Reflection Verses: 2 Kings 2:11-12

“As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is significant about Elijah going up to heaven in a whirlwind?

### **Friday June 6**

Scripture Reading: Acts 7:54-60; Reflection Verse: Acts 7:56

“Look,” he [Stephen] said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the significance of Stephen seeing Jesus at God’s right hand in heaven?

### **Saturday June 7**

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4; Reflection Verse: Hebrews 1:3

“... After he [Jesus] had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What did Jesus accomplish before His ascension and glorification? How did He do this?

# Acts 1:1-11

## New International Version

### Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

<sup>1</sup> In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach <sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. <sup>5</sup> For John baptized with<sup>ⓐ</sup> water, but in a few days you will be baptized with<sup>ⓑ</sup> the Holy Spirit."

<sup>6</sup> Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

<sup>7</sup> He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

<sup>9</sup> After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

# Luke 24:44-53

## New International Version

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

### **The Ascension of Jesus**

<sup>50</sup> When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup> And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: After His suffering, the resurrected Christ presented Himself to the disciples over a period of forty days.

***P: Lord Jesus, we thank you for the many convincing proofs recorded in Scripture that you are alive.***

L: We confess that the resurrected Christ ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

***P: Our ascended Lord, we await your return in glory at the time appointed.***

L: As proof of His presence with the Father, Jesus sent the promised Holy Spirit to the disciples.

***P: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will prepare ourselves and others for Christ's return.***

**\*The Apostles' Creed**

**# 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.**

**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**