

# Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Third Sunday after Pentecost/ Anniversary Sunday)

June 29, 2025

10:30 a.m.

*"By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."*

[1 Corinthians 3:10-11, NIV]



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times.

**P: But in these last days, God has spoken to us by His Son, appointed heir of all things.**

L: The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being.

**P: Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God and the firstborn over all creation.**

L: Jesus Christ is the way and the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father except through Him.

**P: Anyone who knows Jesus has seen His Father because Jesus and the Father are one.**

## \*ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

## \*OPENING HYMN

# 545

"The Church's One Foundation"

## \*A Modern Affirmation

# 885

## \*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

## SCRIPTURE READING (Old Testament)

Isaiah 2:2-4

## CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

## SCRIPTURE READING (Epistle)

Colossians 1:15-23

## HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

# 298

## 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

"Gratitude"

Joshua Onabanjo, piano

## SCRIPTURE READING (Gospel)

Matthew 16:13-19

## MESSAGE

Keep Your Head On  
Rev. Greg Stover

## \*CLOSING HYMN

"Go, Make of All Disciples"

# 571

## \*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

\*For those who are able, please stand.

## Week At A Glance:

### Wednesday, July 2, 2025

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

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

### Saturday, July 5, 2025

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

### Sunday, July 6, 2025 (Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

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

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

## **CELEBRATIONS IN JUNE/JULY 2025**

### Birthdays

6/29 Larry Raymond

7/5 Donna Ballmer

### Anniversaries

7/1 James & Sharon Funkhouser

7/4 Kenneth & Pat Disbennet

### 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:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Greg Stover

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH  
Allegheny West

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

June 29, 2025

(Third Sunday after Pentecost/Anniversary Sunday)

# KEEP YOUR HEAD ON

“The Son is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn over all creation.” **Colossians 1:23**

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, Jerry Dickson, 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 Starnier, 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.

**Happy Anniversary Sunday (June 29, 2025):** As previously communicated, this Sunday has been set aside to celebrate our second year anniversary since disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church effective June 30, 2023. We officially became a GMC congregation effective July 1, 2023. This is an important milestone for our congregation and we will celebrate together after today's worship service with a light lunch. We want to extend a very warm welcome to our Guest Preacher, Rev. Greg Stover who is the Dean of the Allegheny West Annual Conference of the GMC.

**Update On Current Situation With Our Community of Faith – Update:** We would like to encourage members to continue their prayers for the current situation regarding the future of our community of faith. One of the immediate action step that was discussed at the Administrative Council Meeting held on Tuesday June 10, 2025, is to send a letter to all members and friends of Sixth Avenue GMC to ask them to consider making a commitment to giving over and above their current financial gifts to make up the current monthly shortfall between our income and expenses while we continue to take the crucial steps to discern the preferred future God has for us. The letter was mailed to all members last week and copies are available at the Information Desk in the Narthex. Let us keep praying for the next scheduled joint meeting of the leadership of both Mt. Zion GMC and Sixth Avenue GMC on Wednesday July 9, 2025. In the interim if you have any questions, please see Paul Jassogne, Chairperson of the Admin. Council, Dr. Gregg Witham (Lay Leader) or Pastor 'Debo or any other member of leadership. The Trustees are working with our HVAC Company to resolve the situation with the faulty air-conditioning in the sanctuary. Thanks!

**Annual Conference of Allegheny West:** The Allegheny West Provisional Annual Conference held its 2025 Annual Conference with the theme, "Start Planting" at the Mt. Vernon Nazarene University, Mt. Vernon, OH from June 18 – 21. At the gathering, a Special Offering was collected in support of Clergy Education and Training in our Conference. Also, representatives from the Kenya Annual Conference led by their Conference Superintendent, Rev. Wilton Odongo and Rev. Dr. Gabi Kopas, the Conference Superintendent of the Slovakia Conference of the GMC were in attendance. The Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement on the international partnership between our Conference and Kenya Annual Conference was signed by our Conference Superintendent, Bishop Jeff Greenway and Rev. Wilton Odongo. The gathering was also informed by the Chair of the Kenya Missional Partnership, Presiding Elder, Rev. Dave Carter that over \$41,000 was raised in support of the Bible For Kenya initiative – thanks for your support for this initiative. Another highpoint of the gathering was the ordination of 31 Deacons and 11 Elders. The gathering also elected the Delegates that will represent our Annual Conference at the General Conference coming up in Johannesburg, South Africa from August 30 – September 5, 2026. Fifteen Clergy and Lay Delegates were elected with Three Alternates and Three Reserve Delegates. We are happy to report that Pastor 'Debo was again elected as one of the Clergy Delegates that will represent our Annual Conference at the Global gathering. More details will be provided once available.

**Summer Message Series:** Our Summer Message Series, "By Faith" based on **Hebrews Chapter 11** will start on Sunday July 6, 2026. This Message Series will help us have a deeper understanding of the biblical definition of faith and why it matters in the lives of those who are followers of Jesus Christ. We will explore the stories of some of the biblical personalities listed in what scholars have described as the Bible Fall of Faith including Abel and Cain, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses and lessons of faith from their lives. Please be in prayer for this Summer Message Series to help move us to become those who walk more by faith than by sight. Our first sermon in the Message Series will be entitled "What Is Faith & Why Is It Important?" based on **Hebrews 1:1,6** and **Matthew 7:24-29**.

**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 **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.

**Pastor's Bible Study:** This holds on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel and we will continue our journey through the Book of Jeremiah with focus on **chapters 39-43**. Please read the chapters for this week in advance. The Bible Study is open to all members of the community. Our time together during Bible Study is always a blessing and we also spend some time to pray for personal and general prayer requests. Please invite a neighbor or friend and thanks for making time to attend.

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (June 29, 2025 – July 6, 2025):

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

### **Sunday June 29 (Third Sunday after Pentecost/Church Anniversary Sunday)**

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 7:1-17; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 7:12

“Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the Lord has helped us.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Where do you need to acknowledge the faithfulness of the Lord in your life?

### **Monday June 30**

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2:2-5; Reflection Verse: Isaiah 2:3

“Many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How committed are you to learning the ways of the Lord?

### **Tuesday July 1**

Scripture Reading: Joshua 24:14-28; Reflection Verse: Joshua 24:15

“But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the significance of Joshua’s decision to serve the Lord with his household?

### **Wednesday July 2**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:13-20; Reflection Verses: Matthew 16:15-16

“But what about you?” he [Jesus] asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Who is Jesus to you? How has knowing Jesus transformed your life?

### **Thursday July 3**

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:3-14; Reflection Verses: Colossians 1:13-14

“For he [God] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What did God do for us according to this passage? What should be our response?

### **Friday July 4 (Independence Day – USA)**

Scripture Reading: Galatians 5:1-18; Reflection Verse: Galatians 5:16

“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you walking by the Spirit? Are you bearing the fruit of the Spirit or the flesh?

### **Saturday July 5**

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:15-23; Reflection Verse: Colossians 1:15

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How would you describe the relationship between Jesus and His Father?

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times.

**P: *But in these last days, God has spoken to us by His Son, appointed heir of all things.***

L: The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being.

**P: *Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God and the firstborn over all creation.***

L: Jesus Christ is the way and the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father except through Him.

**P: *Anyone who knows Jesus has seen His Father because Jesus and the Father are one.***

## **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**

## Isaiah 2:2-4

<sup>2</sup>In the last days

the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established  
as the highest of the mountains;  
it will be exalted above the hills,  
and all nations will stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples will come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the temple of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us his ways,  
so that we may walk in his paths."

The law will go out from Zion,  
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He will judge between the nations  
and will settle disputes for many peoples.

They will beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will not take up sword against nation,  
nor will they train for war anymore.

## Colossians 1:15-23

### The Supremacy of the Son of God

<sup>15</sup>The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup>For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He is

before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. <sup>19</sup> For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

<sup>21</sup> Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of <sup>[a]</sup> your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup> But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— <sup>23</sup> if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

## **Matthew 16:13-19**

### **Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah**

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

<sup>14</sup> They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

**15** "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

**16** Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

**17** Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. **18** And I tell you that you are Peter,<sup>[a]</sup> and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades<sup>[b]</sup> will not overcome it. **19** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be<sup>[c]</sup> bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be<sup>[d]</sup> loosed in heaven."