

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Eighth Sunday after Pentecost)

July 14, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison."

[Luke 3:19-20]

†

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: As the forerunner for Jesus, John the Baptist boldly named sin and called the people to repentance.

P: *Lord, grant us the courage of our convictions so that we can speak the truth in love.*

L: John also rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to his brother's wife.

P: *Lord, as your followers, grant us courage not to be resigned to the evil we are called to deplore.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

577

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

*AFFIRMATION FROM ROMANS

- UMH 887

Leader:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

People:

No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! 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

Amos 7:7-15

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"Give to the Winds Thy Fears "

129

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 The Good Samaritan 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

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

Mark 6:14-29

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

"Courage Driven by Our Convictions - John the Baptist"

*CLOSING HYMN

133

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

*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

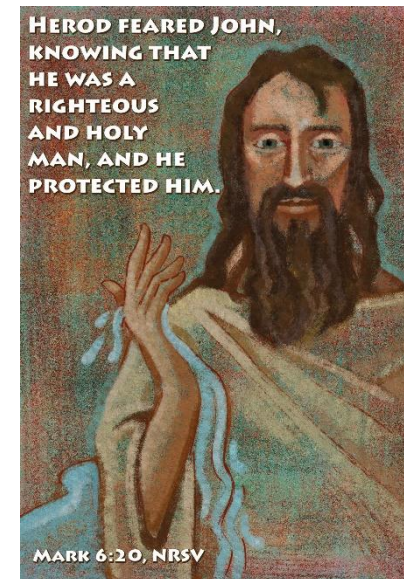
Custodian: Jeff Byerly

Pianist: Jackie Howard

Liturgist: Greg Howard

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

July 14, 2024
(Eighth Sunday after Pentecost)



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

Office email: sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com

Church: (740) 653-1196

Fax: (740) 653-6780

Website: 6thavegmc.org

Sunday, July 14, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

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

Thursday, July 18, 2024

5:30 p.m. Evangelism meeting

Saturday, July 20, 2024

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

Sunday, July 21, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

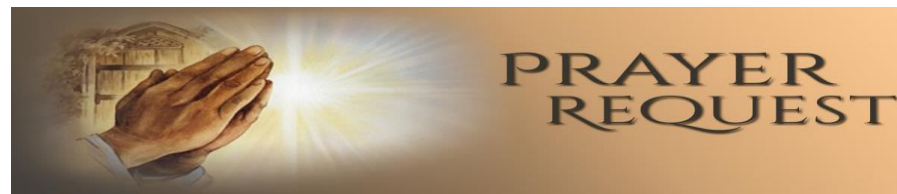
FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024

Birthdays

22 Larry Kilbarger
23 Emily Johnson
27 Jerry Peters
30 Lee Ann Whitmer
31 Betsy Dickson

Anniversaries

22 Chuck & Judy Wheatley



Bennington Glen: Jane Patterson

Edgewood Manor (Lucasville): Alan Fick, C3

LanFair: Mary Chilcote, 313

Luxe: Elaine Hill, Sheridan Wing, 108
Jim Robertson (Billie's brother), Sheridan Hall, 306
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, Tommy Eblin, Walt Fawcett, Sharon Funkhouser, Ed Gurile, Clara Herrick, Cindy, Lloyd & Diann Helber, Mykel Henderly, Dixie Hoskinson, Joan Irwin, Billy Jeffery, 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, Kara Whitmer-Beatty, 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. We will continue our study of the **Letter to the Hebrews** this week with **Chapters 11-12**. This Letter whose author is unknown was written about AD 68 with its main audience the Jewish Christians in the Diaspora. The important message of this letter about the supremacy of Jesus and the sufficiency of His atoning sacrifice will be encouraging to us as we journey together. 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.

AWAKEN – Lay Equipping Weekend – We are pleased to announce this special event by the Discipleship Team of the Allegheny West Provisional Annual Conference from Friday September 6 to Saturday September 7 at Cornerstone Global Methodist Church, 207 S. Court Street, Marysville, OH 43040. This event is designed for individuals and teams who want to grow in their spiritual leadership, and **Awaken** is also the first component of our Certified Lay Ministry training. The rest of the training will be completed through four daylong equipping sessions focused on congregational care, teaching the Bible, being Global Methodist, and missions/evangelism. The cost is \$50 and will include snacks, breakfast and lunch. At the September Awaken event, more information will be shared for the additional sessions for those interested. Please see the flyer in the Narthex for more details. If anyone feels led to attend this equipping event, please contact Pastor 'Debo to learn more. Thanks!

Grief Share Program: We are pleased to announce that we are once again planning to hold the Grief Share Program at our Church this Fall if we are able to get enough people to register. Grief Share is a nondenominational program offered by local churches. People of all faiths (and those who do not practice a faith) are welcome and will feel comfortable attending. The program includes practical information from the Christian Bible. Please be on the lookout for more information. Questions? Contact Pastor 'Debo.

Engagement of Pastoral Coach – Invitation: As was shared by the leadership at our Congregational Meeting held on Sunday **May 19, 2024**, as part our ongoing discernment of the preferred future that we believe God has been preparing our community of faith for, we have invited **Rev. Doug Lynn, a Certified Pastoral Church Coach and Counselor** to walk alongside us for a short season as a Church Coach. Rev. Lynn was our Guest Preacher on Sunday May 5. The next steps as he carries out this important assignment is for him to meet with members of the congregation. Depending on the preference of the member, Rev. Lynn can be invited as a guest to your home or you can ask to meet with him at any of the Coffee Shops in Lancaster. You can also ask to meet with Rev. Lynn at the Church. The available days to meet with Rev. Lynn would be either Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. This process involves both churches of the Lancaster Charge – Mt. Zion GMC and Sixth Avenue GMC. These meetings would be an opportunity for Rev. Lynn to “Listen, Inquire, and Make Observations” about the life of our particular community of faith. Rev. Lynn wants to “hear from those that are concerned about the life of their respective congregations before making any specific recommendations.” It is anticipated that this process would be completed no later than July 2024 depending on when the requested meetings with members are finalized. Please contact Lee Ann at the Sixth Avenue Church Office to ask about when you can meet with Rev. Lynn. Thanks to those who have already signed up to meet with Rev. Lynn.

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. Come and unite in prayer for a great move of God in our community of faith.

Pastor's Corner:

Do you Have the Courage of Your Convictions? (Mark 6:16-18, NLT)

“When Herod heard about Jesus, he said, “John, the man I beheaded, has come back from the dead.” For Herod had sent soldiers to arrest and imprison John as a favor to Herodias. She had been his brother Philip’s wife, but Herod had married her. John had been telling Herod, “It is against God’s law for you to marry your brother’s wife.”

The Collins English Dictionary Online defines Courage as “the quality shown by someone who decides to do something difficult or dangerous, even though they may be afraid.” It also defines Courage as “the attitude of facing and dealing with anything recognized as dangerous, difficult, or painful, instead of withdrawing from it; quality of being fearless or brave; valor.” Having the courage of one’s convictions is the confidence to act in accordance with one’s beliefs. It is the determination to do what we believe is right regardless of whether others approve or agree with us. The courage of one’s convictions is fully understanding the dangers inherent in a particular action and still choosing to go ahead because one is convinced that it is the right thing to do.

God repeatedly told Joshua when he became the leader of the young Israelite nation to be strong and very courageous and not to be afraid. God told Joshua: “This is my command – be **STRONG AND COURAGEOUS!**” Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (**Joshua 1:9**) Where do you need to be **STRONG** and **COURAGEOUS**? The current state of affairs where the Church cannot speak boldly against sinful and immoral behavior and other societal ills is a failure to live up to our description by Jesus as salt and light. This failure often results from a lack of courage to speak out against behavior that falls below God’s best standards for us as recorded in the Bible. The courage to act is strengthened when our conviction on what constitutes right and wrong is very clear.

Our conviction is tied to what we believe about God’s Word. In his pastoral letter to Timothy, Paul affirmed that “All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.” (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**) What do you believe about the Bible? Do you think it is God’s Word or that it contains God’s Word?

In our focus text from **Mark chapter 6**, we read that John the Baptist, the messenger sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus Christ was killed because he spoke courageously against sinful behavior by the reigning king at the time. John the Baptist wasted no time with political correctness or looked the other way or condoned immoral behavior. He had a mandate from God to call people to repentance and he took this responsibility very seriously.

John became so popular because he chose to name and call out sinful behavior and called the people to repent. In a very bold and courageous move that ultimately cost him his life, John the Baptist publicly criticized Herod Antipas, the ruler of Galilee and Perea for marrying Herodias, his brothers’ wife and for many other wrongs he had done. Herod was not happy with the public denouncement of his sinful action by John and under pressure decided to put him in prison. Herodias was not only related to Herod Antipas, but she was also married to his brother Phillip who was ruler over Tracónitis and Iturea, one of the four territories of Roman occupied Palestine. Herodias left her husband Herod Phillip to marry his brother Herod Antipas who by the way divorced his own wife.

Herodias bore a grudge against John and later urged her daughter who danced and impressed Herod to ask for the head of John the Baptist in response to the rash promise made to her by Herod. Even though Herod deeply regretted his promise when he heard the request of the girl for the head of John the Baptist, but because of his pride, he granted her request. John was immediately beheaded in the prison and his head was brought on a tray and given to the girl who took it to her mother. **John was silenced but his death did not silence the truth.**

Like John, we have also been given the mandate to boldly and courageously speak out against unwholesome behavior which starts with a determination to first live to please God. That is what moral conviction is all about.

Pastor 'Debo

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (July 14, 2024 – July 20, 2024):

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

Sunday July 14

Scripture Reading Joshua 24:1-15; 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: Where do you need to take a definitive stand like Joshua did in today’s passage?

Monday July 15

Scripture Reading: Joshua 24:16-28; Reflection Verse: Joshua 24:21

“But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will serve the Lord.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: With God’s help through His Spirit, I will serve the Lord with my household.

Tuesday July 16

Scripture Reading: Ruth 1:6-18; Reflection Verse: Ruth 1:16

“But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What lesson (s) can we learn from Ruth the Moabite?

Wednesday July 17

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:1-11; Reflection Verses: 1 Samuel 17:10-11

“Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.” On hearing the Philistine’s words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why were Saul and all the Israelites dismayed and terrified? When have you been dismayed and terrified? What did you do in the situation?

Thursday July 18

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:12-25; Reflection Verses: 1 Samuel 17:23-24

“As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: When have you been intimidated by the threats of the enemy or opposition? If you were one of the Israelites, how would you have responded to Goliath’s bullying?

Friday July 19

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:26-40; Reflection Verses: 1 Samuel 17:32-33

“David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.” Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why was David confident to go fight Goliath when Saul the king was afraid?

Saturday July 20

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:41-58; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 17:45

“David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Like David, I will confidently confront my adversaries in God’s name.

Amos 7:7-15

New International Version

⁷ This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb,^[a] with a plumb line^[b] in his hand. ⁸ And the LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?"

"A plumb line," I replied.

Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

⁹ "The high places of Isaac will be destroyed
and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined;
with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam."

Amos and Amaziah

¹⁰ Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: "Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. ¹¹ For this is what Amos is saying:

"Jeroboam will die by the sword,
and Israel will surely go into exile,
away from their native land."

¹² Then Amaziah said to Amos, "Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. ¹³ Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king's sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴ Amos answered Amaziah, "I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. ¹⁵ But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

Mark 6:14-29

New International Version

John the Baptist Beheaded

¹⁴ King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying,^[a] "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him."

¹⁵ Others said, "He is Elijah."

And still others claimed, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

¹⁶ But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!"

¹⁷ For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. ¹⁸ For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, ²⁰ because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled^[b]; yet he liked to listen to him.

²¹ Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²² When the daughter of^[c] Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." ²³ And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom."

²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"

"The head of John the Baptist," she answered.

²⁵ At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

²⁶ The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, ²⁸ and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. ²⁹ On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.