

# Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(First Sunday of Advent)

December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m.

*"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:*

*"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us")."*

*[Matthew 1:22-23]*



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Hundreds of years before His birth, Prophet Isaiah prophesied that a virgin will give birth to a son and call Him Immanuel.

**P: *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.***

L: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

**P: *On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.***

L: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**P: *And of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.***

## \*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

## \*OPENING HYMN

# 209

*"Blessed Be the God of Israel" (Tune: Ellacombe)*

## \*The Nicene Creed

# 880

## \*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

## LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

TFWS # 2090

(Soloist & Congregation to sing 1<sup>st</sup> stanza after lighting of Candle)

## SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 1:1-4

## CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

## HYMN

*"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"*

# 204

## 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

## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25

## MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo

**This Same Jesus: "Through the Eyes of Joseph"**

## HOLY COMMUNION (see liturgy 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

# 213

*"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*

## \*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

\*For those who are able, please stand.

## Week At A Glance:

### Sunday, December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

### Wednesday, December 4, 2024

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

11:30 a.m. Strategic Planning

### Saturday, December 7, 2024

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

## **CELEBRATIONS IN DECEMBER 2024**

### Birthdays

3 Charles (Gene) Boetcher

5 Kim Gurile

11 Joan Irwin

13 K.J. Goff

13 Diann Helber

14 Patti Crist

15 Stuart Cupps II

17 Greg Howard

18 Carl Mathias

22 Betty Agosta

22 Rita Cattran

23 Pete Reed

24 Zene Brunney

25 Ed Chaffin

26 Jeff Byerly

27 Vivian Shumaker

27 Maverick Hill

31 Chuck Wheatley

31 Judy Wheatley

### Anniversaries

8 Greg & Jackie Howard

9 Larry & Gaybra Raymond

29 Art & Betsy Dickson

### MINISTRY STAFF

Ministers: The People of This Congregation

Media Team: Daniel Onabanjo, 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



**GLOBAL**  
METHODIST CHURCH  
Allegheny West

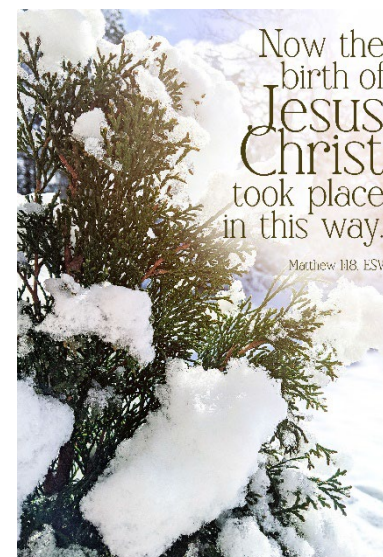
Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

December 1, 2024

(First Sunday of Advent)



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 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)



**Bennington Glen:** Jane Patterson

**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, Joan Irwin,  
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.

**Advent Season Program:** The Season of Advent which marks the start of the Christian Liturgical Year begins today. There is still an opportunity for interested families or individuals to participate in the traditional lighting of the Advent Candles and reading of special prayers. Please contact Pastor 'Debo for more information if interested. Thanks!

**Advent Message Series:** We begin our **Message Series**, “**This Same Jesus**” today **Sunday December 1, 2024** with a look at Jesus through the eyes of Joseph appointed by God to be His earthly father. This Message Series will help us understand the significance of the birth of Jesus Christ in fulfilment of prophetic revelation and how we are called to live as contemporary witnesses and heralds of His second Advent. Those who do not yet have a relationship with Jesus will get a glimpse into His story through our witness and it is therefore important that we have the right understanding about Jesus through the lens of those who encountered Him in the flesh. As the original disciples gazed intently in awe as the resurrected Jesus ascended into heaven, Dr. Luke tells us that “two men dressed in white stood beside them” and shared this important prophetic word: “*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.” (Acts1:10-11).* As we await and look forward to Christ’s return in glory, we will examine Scripture and remind ourselves of what the Lord expects of us. Please plan to join us for the Four Sundays of Advent that will prepare us for Christmas.

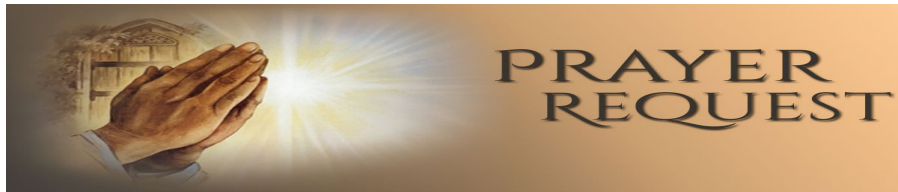
**Special Christmas Eve Service:** We would like to specially invite you to join us for our Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship Celebration on **Tuesday December 24, 2024** at 6:30pm. It promises to be a blessed time as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. There will be a separate service at Mt. Zion GMC at 5:00pm. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us for this special service.

**Pastor’s Bible Study:** We invite you to please mark your calendar for our weekly time of study on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. During the Advent Season, we will be taking another look at some of the stories about Jesus recorded in the gospel accounts as it relates to our weekly Message. For this Wednesday, we will be looking at the following passages: **Matthew chapters 1 & 2** and **Luke chapter 2**. Please read the passages in advance and come prepared to share any useful insight from your reading. This Bible Study is 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!

**Volunteers Still Needed:** We are still in urgent need of volunteers to serve on the Hospitality Team as Greeters to help welcome members and guests to our weekly worship services. We also need volunteers to assist on the Media Ministry Team. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Gregg Witham or Lee Ann Whitmer. Thanks!

**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.

**Inclement Weather Policy:** When a Level 2 or higher snow emergency is issued for the City of Lancaster or Fairfield County in general, all church events will be cancelled. This includes worship services, meetings, and other activities. Please check your local TV listings for more information (ABC 6 & 10TV).



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## **WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (December 1, 2024 – December 7, 2024):**

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

### **Sunday December 1**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:1-17; Reflection Verses: Matthew 1:16-17

“.. and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah. Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why is it important for the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah to include David?

### **Monday December 2**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:15-25; Reflection Verse: Matthew 1:21

““She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What do we learn about the mission of Jesus from this passage?

### **Tuesday December 3**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-12; Reflection Verse: Matthew 2:12

“And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why were the Magi warned to return to their country by another route? Where is the Spirit nudging you to take a different route?

### **Wednesday December 4**

Scripture Reading Matthew 2:13-23; Reflection Verses: Matthew 2:19-20

“After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How confident are you that God will protect you and your loved ones from danger?

### **Thursday December 5**

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-21; Reflection Verse: Luke 2:10

“But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can we share the good news that causes great joy like the shepherds did?

### **Friday December 6**

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:22-40; Reflection Verse: Luke 2:40

“And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can we grow in wisdom and understanding of God? Why is this important?

### **Saturday December 7**

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:41-52; Reflection Verse: Luke 2:49

“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he was saying to them.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How much time do you spend at your heavenly Father’s house like Jesus did?

## **Hebrews 1:1-4**

### **God's Final Word: His Son**

**1** In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

## **Matthew 1:18-25**

### **Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son**

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about<sup>[a]</sup>: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet<sup>[b]</sup> did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,<sup>[c]</sup> because he will save his people from their sins."

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"<sup>[d]</sup> (which means "God with us").

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Hundreds of years before His birth, Prophet Isaiah prophesied that a virgin will give birth to a son and call Him Immanuel.

**P: *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.***

L: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

**P: *On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.***

L: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**P: *And of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.***

### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



## **The Breakthrough Prayer**

**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.**