

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Second Sunday of Advent)

December 8, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"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."

[Luke 2:10-11]



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: When Jesus was born, there were shepherds living out in field nearby watching over their flock.

P: *Jesus the Good Shepherd, be our Shepherd still.*

L: An angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds and the glory of the Lord shone around them.

P: *Jesus the Good Shepherd, let us behold your glory.*

L: The angel said to the shepherds: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all the people."

P: *Good Shepherd, let us spread the word concerning what we have come to believe about you.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

598

"O Word of God Incarnate"

*The Apostles Creed

881

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

TFWS # 2090

(Soloist & Congregation to sing 2nd stanza after lighting of Candle)

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 2:1-4

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks "

236

(Tune: Winchester Old)

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

Luke 2:8-20

MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo

This Same Jesus: The Shepherds Meet The Good Shepherd

*CLOSING HYMN

196

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Sunday, December 8, 2024

9:30 a.m. Adult Discipleship (Adult Bible Study) in the Parlor

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

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

Saturday, December 14, 2024

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

CELEBRATIONS IN DECEMBER 2024

Birthdays

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 8, 2024

(Second 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

Office email: sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com

Church: (740) 653-1196

Fax: (740) 653-6780

Website: 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 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.



Pastor & Staff Appreciation: If you would like to give a monetary gift to Pastor 'Debo and the church staff for Christmas, they will be accepted through December 17th. They may be turned in during the offertory time or any time in the office. Please mark your envelope or your check "**Staff Christmas Gift.**" Thank you!



In Remembrance of Freda Downs: The Mitten Tree is up and ready to be decorated with mittens, gloves, hats, scarfs, socks, underwear for children, and whatever else that you think might be necessary. All items collected will be delivered on December 21st to Maywood Mission. Thank you and God Bless!

Adopt-A-Family: There are many ornaments on the little tree this year. Your help is **greatly** needed and very much **appreciated!** Cash donations are also accepted. We only have until **Wednesday, December 13th** to have all items returned to the church. Please remember:

- Attach gift receipts and ornaments to gifts
- Please **DO NOT** wrap gifts. If you would like, you can send in wrapping paper, bows, etc. Thank you and God Bless!

Advent Season Program: The Season of Advent which marks the start of the Christian Liturgical Year began last week Sunday. 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 Greg Howard or Pastor 'Debo for more information if interested. Thanks!

Advent Message Series: We began our **Message Series, "This Same Jesus"** last Sunday **December 1, 2024** with a look at Jesus through the eyes of Joseph appointed by God to be His earthly father. During today's service, we will look at the Christmas Story through the eyes of the Shepherds who received the "good news that will cause great joy for all the people." This Message Series will help us understand the significance of the birth of Jesus Christ in fulfillment 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.*" (**Acts 1:10-11**). Please plan to join us for the remaining 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 a fresh look at some of the stories about Jesus recorded in the gospel accounts as it relates to our weekly Message. For this Wednesday 12/11/24, we will be looking at the following passages: **Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3 and John 1.** 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 Worship/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 8, 2024 – December 14, 2024):

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

Sunday December 8

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:1-17; Reflection Verse: Matthew 3:11

“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Who was John the Baptist alluding to in this passage? Are you Spirit filled?

Monday December 9

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:1-11; Reflection Verse: Matthew 4:4

“Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you living on bread alone or on every word that comes from God’s mouth?

Tuesday December 10

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:12-25; Reflection Verses: Matthew 4:15-17

“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How is the birth of Jesus a fulfillment of Scripture? What is the kingdom of heaven?

Wednesday December 11

Scripture Reading Mark 1:1-13; Reflection Verses: Mark 1:10-11

“Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: I will reflect on my own baptism and be thankful. **(If you have not been baptized and would like more information, please contact Pastor ‘Debo)**

Thursday December 12

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38; Reflection Verse: Luke 1:38

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can we emulate the example of Mary? How will submitting to God’s sovereign will impact your life?

Friday December 13

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:39-56; Reflection Verse: Luke 1:45

“Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What promise (s) in God’s Word are you looking forward to in this season?

Saturday December 14

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-21; Reflection Verse: Luke 2:14

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How will you celebrate the peace and favor ushered in by Christ’s birth this season?

Hebrews 2:1-4

Warning to Pay Attention

2 We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ² For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³ how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Luke 2:8-20

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: When Jesus was born, there were shepherds living out in field nearby watching over their flock.

P: *Jesus the Good Shepherd, be our Shepherd still.*

L: An angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds and the glory of the Lord shone around them.

P: *Jesus the Good Shepherd, let us behold your glory.*

L: The angel said to the shepherds: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all the people."

P: *Good Shepherd, let us spread the word concerning what we have come to believe about you.*

***The Apostles Creed**

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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.

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.