

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(First Sunday after Christmas Day)

December 29, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"Why were you searching for me?" [Jesus] 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.'" (Luke 2:49-50)



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The parents of Jesus took the biblical command to train up children in God's ways seriously.

P: *We will follow the example of Jesus and spend time in our heavenly Father's house.*

L: Loving God, as the deer pants for living waters, let our soul yearn and faint for the courts of the Lord.

P: *"Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you."*

L: Scripture records that Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.

P: *Loving God, let your wisdom and favor rest upon us as we follow the example of Jesus your Son.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

250

"Once in Royal David's City"

*The Apostles Creed

881

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 2:4-10

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"Trust and Obey"

467

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 2:41-52

MESSAGE

Jesus in His Father's House

Pastor 'Debo

*CLOSING HYMN

"Joy to the World"

246

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Sunday, December 29, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

3:30 p.m. Foundation Dinners

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

New Year's Day (No Pastor's Bible Study)

Saturday, January 4, 2025

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

CELEBRATIONS IN December 2024

Birthdays

31 Chuck Wheatley

31 Judy Wheatley

Anniversaries

29 Art & Betsy Dickson

CELEBRATIONS IN January 2025

Birthdays

1 Pat Disbennet

2 Fred Beougher

10 Tae'lyn Wallis

12 Michael Stalder

13 Phyllis Flowers

18 Carol Davis

19 Krista Spangler

25 Tim Schaffer

25 Doris Shaugher

25 Lou Ellen Reef

26 Sonya Chaffin

27 Angela Trogus

30 Sharon Funkhouser

Anniversaries

27 Carl & Sharon Mathias

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

December 29, 2024

(First Sunday after Christmas Day)



**All who heard him
were amazed...**

Luke 2:47, NRSV

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 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.

Thank
you 

We would like to thank members of the Church for their expression of love through the Special Christmas Staff offering, greeting cards, cookies and other gifts.
May God richly bless and keep you!

Pastor 'Debo, Lee Ann, Jackie, and Jeff.

New Year Message Series – Christian To The Core: As we look forward to the start of a New Year, we are more than ever committed to living faithfully into the Great Commission in **Matthew 28:18-20**. We are excited to share that we will be starting this 12 week Series that will take us through the Eight Core Values that have been identified after detailed research and prayerful discernment as foundational to living a life of faith and obedience to the Great Commission Mandate of Jesus and His instruction to us to be witnesses recorded in **Acts 1:8**. **The Christian To The Core Curriculum** was developed by the **International Leadership Institute (ILI)** to equip leaders and promote the spread of the gospel. This aligns with the mission of the **Global Methodist Church (GMC)** to make disciples of Jesus and to spread scriptural holiness across the globe. As the ILI global team of leaders met, they focused on a very important question: **What is the single most important factor impacting the acceleration of the spread of the Gospel?** The answer to the question was **LEADERSHIP** empowered by the Holy Spirit. In order for us to be able to faithfully and confidently obey the Great Commission, we are going to help one understand the foundation principles that will be taught during this Message Series.

Through fervent prayer, in-depth discussions, and two years of research, the ILI team identified the answer to the development of leadership values. They discerned that the best Christian leaders live by Eight Core Values that affect who they are and everything they do. The values are: **Intimacy with God - Passion for the Harvest - Visionary Leadership - Culturally Relevant Evangelism - Multiplication of Leaders - Family Priority - Faithful Stewardship and Integrity**. Through the partnership between the ILI and the GMC, we will all have access to the rich materials that will help us stay connected and develop these critical leadership values. The Message Series will start on **Sunday January 5, 2025**, and run through **Sunday March 26, 2025**. The First Session in the Message Series will cover “**The Core**” and we will touch on the “Time-Tested Core Values for Christian Living” for those who want to be disciples who make disciples of Jesus Christ. Because we know that nothing happens without prayer, we request all members to please be in prayer that this Message Series will build on the crucial work that has been done in the past and launch us into a new season of impactful ministry and commitment to reaching others with the gospel. Please see Pastor 'Debo for more details.

Covenant Renewal Service on January 5, 2025: At the start of a New Year, Methodists in the tradition started by Rev. John Wesley in the 18th century come together to renew their covenant by participating in a Covenant Renewal Service. Please plan to join us for this important service on Epiphany Sunday January 5, 2025. 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. **There will be no Pastor's Bible Study on Wednesday January 1, 2025 (New Year's Day)**. We however highly recommend that you spend some time during this week to read and reflect on the stories of Jesus Christ recorded in the gospel accounts as it relates to His birth and start of His public ministry. We encourage everyone to read the most popular public sermon of Jesus Christ, (The Sermon on The Mount) recorded in **Matthew 5-7**. We also encourage everyone to read the similar Sermon on the Plain recorded in **Luke 6:17-49**. 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. **We will resume our weekly gathering on Wednesday January 8, 2025.**

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 29, 2024 – January 4, 2025):

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

Sunday December 29 (First Sunday after Christmas)

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1:1-18; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 1:3

“Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the Lord Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the Lord.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What do we learn from Elkanah from his worship practices? How are we challenged?

Monday December 30

Scripture Reading: Job 1:1-22; Reflection Verse: Job 1:5

“When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would make arrangements for them to be purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, “Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.” This was Job’s regular custom.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What does Job’s regular custom of sacrifices reveal about his heart towards God?

Tuesday December 31

Scripture Reading: Psalm 84:1-12; Reflection Verses: Psalm 84:3-4

“Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How does this passage inspire a deeper desire to worship God

Wednesday January 1 (New Year’s Day)

Scripture Reading Psalm 95:1-11; Reflection Verses: Psalm 95:6-7

“Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is your preferred posture when it comes to worship of the Lord? How are you living as part of the “people of [God’s] pasture” and “the flock under his care”?

Thursday January 2

Scripture Reading: Psalm 100:1-5; Reflection Verse: Psalm 100:4

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What ten things are you thankful for on the second day of a New Year?

Friday January 3

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:41-52; Reflection Verses: Luke 2:49-50

“Why were you searching for me?” **[Jesus]** 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 seriously do you take public gathering with others? (see **Hebrews 10:24-25**)

Saturday January 4

Scripture Reading: John 4:13-26; Reflection Verse: John 4:24

“God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you worshiping God in Spirit and in truth?

1 Peter 2:4-10

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house^[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”^[b]

⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”^[c]

⁸ and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”^[d]

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Luke 2:41-52

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"^[a] ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The parents of Jesus took the biblical command to train up children in God's ways seriously.

P: *We will follow the example of Jesus and spend time in our heavenly Father's house.*

L: Loving God, as the deer pants for living waters, let our soul yearn and faint for the courts of the Lord.

P: *"Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you."*

L: Scripture records that Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.

P: *Loving God, let your wisdom and favor rest upon us as we follow the example of Jesus your Son.*

***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.