

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Second Sunday after Pentecost)

June 2, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place."

[1 Samuel 3:8-9, NIV]



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Liturgist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Even though Samuel ministered before the Lord, he was not accustomed to God's voice.

P: *Lord, with the Spirit's help, open our eyes to see and our ears to discern and hear your voice.*

L: Our God is patient and lovingly waits for us to recognize and respond to His voice.

P: *Jesus the Good Shepherd, help us to hear your voice of truth so we may guide others to you.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

339

"Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast"

*THE APOSTLES CREED

-

881

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.

*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

1 Samuel 3:1-10

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

454

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 Veteran's Burial Squad 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."

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

John 1:43-51

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

"Helping Others Discern God's Call"

HOLY COMMUNION (see bulletin insert or 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

396

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

*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



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
Allegheny West

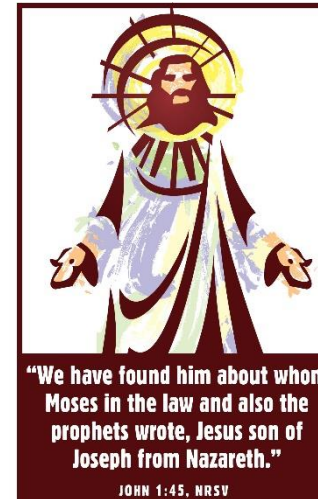
Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

June 2, 2024

(Second 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, June 2, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

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

Saturday, June 8, 2024

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

Sunday, June 9, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2024

Birthdays

- 1 Sandra Gurile
- 4 Jerry Dupler
- 4 Ian Smith
- 7 Charles Crist
- 9 Adeline Singer
- 10 Melissa Kilbarger
- 11 Betty Rogers
- 16 Robert Page
- 17 Larry Downs
- 17 Tammy Witham
- 27 Jane Patterson
- 29 Larry Raymond

Anniversaries

- 2 William & Rita Cattran
- 11 Curtis & Sarah Witham
- 22 Mark & Stephanie Brunney
- 23 Gregg & Tammy Witham
- 24 Tim & Lori Schaffer
- 28 Ed & Sonya Chaffin
- 28 Bill & Jane Pool



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, Clara Herrick, Cindy, Lloyd & Diann Helber, Mykel Henderly, Dixie Hoskinson, Joan Irwin, 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, Carl David Tripp, Kara Whitmer-Beatty, Ralph Bay, 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. As we continue in joy of the Season of Pentecost, we will explore another short but impactful Letter of the New Testament. We will start Paul's **Letter to Titus** this week and may be able to complete **Chapters 1-3**. 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.

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. The meetings will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis. We strongly urge our members to take advantage of this opportunity to share their thoughts with Rev. Lynn. Thanks!

Allegheny West Provisional Annual Conference (PAC) – 2024 Annual Conference: We are pleased to share that our Annual Conference with the theme, “**Building Together**” was held at the Mt. Vernon Nazarene University, Mt. Vernon, OH from May 22-25. While we are waiting for the summary of decisions and actions at the Conference, we are pleased to share that Ordinand and General Conference pictures are now available at the Conference website: <https://alleghenywestgmc.org/conference-2024/>. The Lancaster Charge was represented at the well-attended gathering by Pastor ‘Debo and our Lay Delegate, Carla Stalder of Mt. Zion GMC. Please check out the conference website for more details on the Annual Conference.

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. Let us come and unite in prayer for a great move of God in our midst.

Strategic Planning Team – Request for Prayers: As part of measures to help our community of faith discern the preferred future that God has for us, a **Strategic Planning Team** has been set up and is headed by our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham. One of the plans we have is to hire a Church Coach to walk alongside our Church and Mt. Zion GMC to discern God's direction. Please keep this team and our church leadership in your prayers and be on the lookout for ways to support this important work. Contact Dr. Gregg Witham or Pastor ‘Debo with any questions.

Pastor's Corner:

Speak Lord, Thy Servant is Listening! (1 Samuel 3:8-10, NRSV)

“The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

The hymn, “Master, speak! Thy servant heareth” by Frances Ridley Havergal is typically used as a preparatory hymn prior to the proclamation of the Word during a divine worship service. At least, I recall that it was a favorite selection of many preachers while growing up in Nigeria and it has remained one of my favorite hymns. The reality is that God is always speaking but the question is, are we listening for His voice?

The story of the call of Samuel by God is simple (if one can truly describe God's call as simple) but significant. In first **Samuel chapter 3:1**, we are prepared for why the call of young Samuel was quite momentous: *“The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions.”* The Israelites were living in disfavor with God and in fact one of the most profound passages that described the sad situation of things in the land of Israel at that time is found twice in the Book of Judges: *“In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.” (Judges 17:6, Judges 21, 25).*

Just as those were interesting times in the land of Israel, we are also living in interesting times and it would appear that everyone is doing what seems right in their own eyes with total disregard for what God expects of us. Without a doubt, God has plenty to say to us in His inspired Word. God is always speaking and chooses how He speaks to us and until we finetune our ability to discern and hear God's voice, we will continue to live in ignorance of His ways.

Like Samuel, even though many profess to be Christians or followers of Jesus, we have still not developed the ability to hear from God through hearing or listening to His Word. Because of our failure to personally hear or discern God's voice, especially when our hearts have become calloused and hardened by consistent sin and rebellion, we need people in our lives who can speak the truth to us in love by pointing us to God's message in the Bible. Do you have someone or friends that are bold enough to let you know when you are going down the path of destruction?

Even though Eli was not leading his own sons well and there was moral failure in Israel under his leadership as priest, after Samuel had run to him three times asking if he had called him, Eli finally realized that the Lord was the one calling young Samuel. Eli at a critical time in the life of Samuel served as a spiritual guide and mentor and we all need people like that in our lives. I am personally thankful for those that have been used by God to provide guidance and support for me on my spiritual journey. Eli helped young Samuel to respond appropriately to God's call.

Every one of us has a calling – it may not be to serve as a prophet like Samuel or Jeremiah or into set apart ministry like pastors but we have an important calling nonetheless. **WE HAVE A CALLING TO FOLLOW JESUS WHEREVER HE MAY LEAD US** and bring others with us.

The writer of Hebrews helps us understand how God has chosen to speak to us through His Son: *“Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.” (Hebrews 1:1-2)* Did you catch that? “in these last days, he (God) has spoken to us by a Son.”

The way God speaks to us is through His inspired Word and we have four different books that we call gospels (**Matthew, Mark, Luke & John**) that provide enough revelatory details about God's Son, Jesus Christ. God can choose how to speak to us through His Spirit but we know that whatever inspiration we personally receive from the Holy Spirit must be consistent with the written revelation of God to be credible.

There are many “prophets” in our contemporary setting who always claim to have a “fresh” word from the Lord for God's people. Some of these speak out of their own desires and to get people to follow them. They tell their listeners what they want to hear even when what they say clearly contradicts God's written Word. Do not follow them. Listen prayerfully and you will hear the still small voice of God amidst the cacophony even today. He is always speaking.

Pastor ‘Debo

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST
(ORDINARY TIME OR KINGDOMTIDE)**

The pastor stands behind the Lord's table.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. *The pastor may lift hands and keep them raised.*

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,

and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day

when justice shall roll down like waters
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The pastor may lower hands.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The pastor may raise hands.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,

delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

At his ascension you exalted him

to sit and reign with you at your right hand.

The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the bread, or touch the bread, or lift the bread.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the cup, or touch the cup, or lift the cup.

When the supper was over he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The pastor may raise hands.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's

offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor may hold hands, palms down, over the bread and cup.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

The pastor may raise hands.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,

one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,

until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,

all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God),
now and for ever.

Amen.

1 Samuel 3:1-10

New International Version

The LORD Calls Samuel

3 The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

2 One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. **3** The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. **4** Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." **5** And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

6 Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

8 A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. **9** So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

John 1:43-51

New International Version

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶ "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip.

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

⁴⁸ "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."

⁵⁰ Jesus said, "You believe^[a] because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." ⁵¹ He then added, "Very truly I tell you,^[b] you^[c] will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on'^[d] the Son of Man."

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (June 2, 2024 – June 8, 2024):

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

Sunday June 2

Scripture Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Reflection Verses: 1 Samuel 3:9-10

“So Eli told Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Can you recall a time you helped someone else discern God’s guidance or gave them spiritual direction? How are you growing in God’s wisdom?

Monday June 3

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 10:1-8; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 10:1

“Then Samuel took a flask of olive oil and poured it on Saul’s head and kissed him, saying, “Has not the Lord anointed you ruler over his inheritance?”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How did Samuel’s experience help him in setting Saul apart for God’s calling?

Tuesday June 4

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 16:7

“But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: I will trust the Holy Spirit to help me look for the things God looks at in others.

Wednesday June 5

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6:1-13; Reflection Verse: Isaiah 6:8

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can you respond like Isaiah to God’s mission to reach others today?

Thursday June 6

Scripture Reading: John 1:43-51; Reflection Verse: John 1:43

“The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Can you remember what made you say yes to the invitation of Jesus to “Follow me?” Have you ever invited another person to come and meet Jesus based on your own personal experience? (Read **John 1:44-46** for additional insight)

Friday June 7

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-19; Reflection Verse: Jeremiah 1:5

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Have you identified the purpose for which God has called and set you apart?

Saturday June 8

Scripture Reading: Ephesian 2:1-10; Reflection Verses: Ephesian 2:8-10

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do...”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you living into God’s plan to do good works for which He created you?