

# Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Father’s Day)

June 16, 2024 10:30 a.m.

*“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.”*

[ 1 Peter 2:9, NIV]



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Liturgist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: At Mt. Sinai, God revealed to the Israelites His desire to make them a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

**P: Lord, grant us grace not to follow in the path of disobedience as the ancient Jews.**

L: Apostle Peter reminded the early Christians that their forefathers stumbled due to disobedience.

**P: Lord, as your chosen people called out of darkness, let our witness declare your praises to others.**

## \*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

### \*OPENING HYMN

# 545

“The Church’s One Foundation”

### AFFIRMATION FROM 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy

# 889

Leader:

There is one God and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify.

People:

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and was manifested in the flesh, indicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. 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 Peter 2:4-5, 9-12

## CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

Dr. McGuire

## HYMN

“Come, Christians Join to Sing”

# 158

## 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

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June 16, 2024  
(Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Father’s Day)



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](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)

### 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

Exodus 19:1-8

### MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Steve McGuire

“Resisting Spiritual Amnesia”

### \*CLOSING HYMN

# 530

“Are Ye Able”

### \*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

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Steve McGuire

Pastor: Rev. Dr. ‘Debo Onabanjo

**Sunday, June 16, 2024**

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

**Wednesday, June 19, 2024**

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

**Saturday, June 22, 2024**

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

**Sunday, June 23, 2024**

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

**FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2024**

**Birthdays**

- 16 Robert Page
- 17 Larry Downs
- 17 Tammy Witham
- 27 Jane Patterson
- 29 Larry Raymond

**Anniversaries**

- 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, 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, Carl David Tripp, 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 2-4. 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. Ms. Judy Wheatley will help facilitate Bible Study during Pastor 'Debo's vacation.

**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. Please refer to the circular letter to members from the church leadership for more details. Thanks!

**Pastor 'Debo's Vacation** - Pastor 'Debo will be away on vacation on **June 16, 2024** and will also be away on Sunday **June 30, 2024**. Arrangements have been made for Pulpit Supply during the Sundays that Pastor 'Debo will be away. During Pastor 'Debo's time away, we are pleased to share that Rev. Chuck Wheatley will assist as needed with pastoral care in emergencies. Please join our leadership in wishing Pastor 'Debo a restorative vacation with his family and safe travels. If you have any questions, please contact Dottie Raymond, SPPRC Chairperson.

**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.

**Welcome to Rev. Dr. Steve McGuire:** We extend a warm welcome to our Guest Preacher, Rev. Dr. Steve McGuire and his lovely wife, Rose. Dr. McGuire is from Athens County, Ohio. He graduated from Circleville Bible College (what is now Ohio Christian University - OCU) in 1978 and taught Bible and Theology courses there from 1983 to 2006. During that time he also pastored part-time at a UMC Church near Kingston, Ohio. From 2006 to 2022, he pastored full-time and worked as Assistant District Superintendent in the Foothills District of the West Ohio Conference. After retiring for 6 months, he returned to OCU, where he has recently been named Director of the School for Ministry. In this role, he is leading the drive to challenge a new generation of clergy to respond to God's call and undergo training to serve in local ministry, world missions, and evangelism. He is married to Rose, who is from Pickaway County and they have 3 adult children.

#### **Pastor's Corner:**

#### **Chosen for a Purpose (Genesis 18:19, NRSV)**

*“No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice; so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.”*

It is Father's Day. A day like this is usually a mixed bag for varied reasons. Regardless of what may be going on in our lives, it is important to honor and celebrate those for whom this day has been set aside. We should also pray for and acknowledge those for whom this is a difficult day for sundry reasons.

On a day like this, one of the many questions that may perhaps be on our minds (it is on mine) is what type of father or parent am I? What type of legacy or example am I setting for those around me, most especially for my three young sons? Sometime ago, I came across a quote that to me aptly summarizes what Legacy means: “What is left behind through the actions of a lifetime.” What legacy are you leaving? When we read the creation account in Genesis, we see a clear purpose in the actions of God, the consummate leader. God is the Maker of ALL things created and He set a good example by teaching the man He created how to be the absolute best leader – a man after His own heart and a Champion. God created the man to rule and lead but also to serve. After creation, God handed over the management and responsibility for the upkeep of the Earth to humans and gave the man a leadership role.

The Lord God placed the humans He made in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. We need to understand that RESPONSIBILITY IS SYNONYMOUS WITH ACCOUNTABILITY. God would not have given humans a job that was beyond their ability. God did not set us up to fail. God called Abraham out of a pagan culture and set him apart for a purpose. Just as God specifically chose the Israelites, the descendants of His friend Abraham to be set apart for Him in the Old Testament, God wants to use Christians, believers to model His standard and expectations for unbelievers.

In **John 15:16** Jesus makes the purpose for our selection clear: *“You did not CHOOSE me, but I CHOSE you and APPOINTED you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.”* The father is the one that God has given the primary responsibility to be the spiritual head in a Christian home but in our contemporary setting, some homes have absentee fathers for a lot of reasons, so mothers have been constrained to take lead in this area.

In his hymn, “I and My House will serve the Lord” based on **Joshua 24:15**, Charles Wesley the brother of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism shared with us how the head of a family, ideally the father who wants to fulfill their God given purpose to lead their family right can truly live out that commitment. From this hymn, I would like to suggest four helpful steps that can help us, especially fathers, to live faithfully into the purpose for which we have been Chosen by God and His Son Jesus Christ:

1. **We must be obedient to His Word** – The first proof of our readiness to want to serve with purpose the one true God will be evidenced by our obedience to His Word. Our obedience to God's Word will be demonstrated through our actions and words. We will show by the things we do and those things we refuse to do that we know our heavenly Master and serve Him with hearts sincere. What do you believe about the Bible? Do you believe the whole Bible as the revealed, inspired word of God that contains all things necessary for sound living or do you believe that it only partly contains the word of God, and we can choose what to obey and when we feel like it? Secondly,
2. **We must set a fair example for Others** – In the hymn, Wesley notes: “I must the fair example set, from those that on my pleasure wait. The stumbling block remove, their duty by my life explain. And still in ALL my works maintain the dignity of love.” We are called to love others the same way that Christ loved us. We are called to have agape love for others. Love that is driven by our own love for God and not dependent on what the other person has done or whether they deserve to be loved or not. Fathers and Grandfathers (both biological and spiritual) must set a good example in this regard. What kind of example are you setting when it comes to loving others? Thirdly,
3. **We must be a model follower of God:** Wesley says in stanza three that to truly serve the Lord, “We must be easy to be entreated, mild, quickly appeased, and reconciled, a follower of my God.” Jesus taught us about loving our enemies, praying for those who persecute us. He calls us to be like His Father who sends His sunlight on the evil and the good, who sends His rain on the just and the unjust alike (see **Matthew 5:43-48**). Are we model followers of Jesus of Nazareth? And lastly,
4. **We must tell others about God's grace** – Wesley reminds us in his hymn that he was “A sinner saved from sin, who has his family to win, to preach their sins forgiven; children and wife, and through the paths of righteousness conduct them all to heaven.” We are to demonstrate our discipleship by modeling our life after that of Jesus. Can people see Jesus in our conduct? Are we truly saved by grace through faith? As people chosen by God, let us ask the Holy Spirit to help us make a difference .

**Happy Father's Day!**  
**Pastor 'Debo**

## **John 5:31-40**

New International Version

### **Testimonies About Jesus**

<sup>31</sup> "If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. <sup>32</sup> There is another who testifies in my favor, and I know that his testimony about me is true.

<sup>33</sup> "You have sent to John and he has testified to the truth. <sup>34</sup> Not that I accept human testimony; but I mention it that you may be saved. <sup>35</sup> John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

<sup>36</sup> "I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to finish—the very works that I am doing—testify that the Father has sent me. <sup>37</sup> And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, <sup>38</sup> nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent. <sup>39</sup> You study<sup>[a]</sup> the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, <sup>40</sup> yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

## **1 Thessalonians 2:10-13**

New International Version

<sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. <sup>11</sup> For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, <sup>12</sup> encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

<sup>13</sup> And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.

## **WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (June 16, 2024 – June 22, 2024):**

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

### **Sunday June 16**

Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-9; Reflection Verses: Genesis 12:1, 4

“The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. . . . So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Can you recall a time in your life when you had to relocate far from home or your comfort zone? How was the experience like for you and your family?

### **Monday June 17**

Scripture Reading: Genesis 17:1-22; Reflection Verses: Genesis 17:1-2

“When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you walking faithfully and blamelessly before God? Give examples of this.

### **Tuesday June 18**

Scripture Reading: Genesis 18:1-19; Reflection Verse: Genesis 18:19

“For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Do you believe God specifically chose you to be a father? How are you living into God’s plan and purpose for your life as a father/parent?

### **Wednesday June 19**

Scripture Reading: Exodus 19:1-8; Reflection Verse: Exodus 19:8

“The people all responded together, “We will do everything the Lord has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: With the Spirit’s help, I will do everything commanded by the Lord in His Word.

### **Thursday June 20**

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-17; Reflection Verse: John 15:16

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are you bearing lasting fruit for the Lord? How can you be even more fruitful?

### **Friday June 21**

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:21-6:4; Reflection Verse: Ephesians 6:4

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: I will train and instruct my household in the ways of God.

### **Saturday June 22**

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 3:1-7; Reflection Verse: 1 Peter 3:7

“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives . . . . so that nothing will hinder your prayers..”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can husbands live into this scriptural mandate to be considerate as they live with their wives? What is the benefit of obeying this instruction?