

Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit
26210 W. 12 Mile Road ~ Southfield, MI 48034
Telephone: (248)352-0680; Fax (248)352-5568
Mr. Matthew deRaad, Organist-Choir Director
The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian-Minister

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

11:00 A. M.

February 20, 2005

ORDER OF WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE

CHIMES

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN - # 76 "Blessed Assurance"**

***INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)**

Father, we have come to You in silence. Fill us with Your Word. Father, we have come to You in chaos. Give us order and Your plan. Father, we have come to You dumbfounded. Let us understand. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who taught us to pray:

"Our Father, Who art in heaven..."

***GLORIA PATRI**

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PASTOR: There are two basic understanding of prayer. One approach prays to get God on our side. Implicit in this view is the idea that pleading with God will win Him to our cause.

PEOPLE: **The other approach prays to get ourselves on God's side. Here prayer seeks to align us with God's purposes.**

PASTOR: We cannot gauge the success of our prayers by how little trouble we face in life. Rather, our prayers are answered if we are able to live with love in the middle of loneliness, with hope in the face of despair, with faith in the shadow of doubt.

PEOPLE: **The prayers of Jesus were always two-way streets. What He asked for Himself was always subject to what God needed from Him. Each prayer ended with His submission to the will of God.**

PASTOR: God must appreciate our prayers of thanksgiving in times of blessing. But He also welcomes our prayers of petition in times of trouble. Like a caring father, He hears our cries of distress. Let us

pray. O God, we pray for courage to go on when life has become dangerous and scary.

PEOPLE: **O God, we pray for patience to sit still and wait when life seems to have passed us by.**

PASTOR: O Lord and God, we pray for understanding when we are baffled by things that have happened for no reason at all.

PEOPLE: **Merciful God, we pray for endurance when we are stretched beyond the limits of our physical or spiritual strength.**

PASTOR: Our Heavenly Father, we pray for forgiveness when the people we trust have turned their back on us.

PEOPLE: **Dear Lord, we pray for persistence when every effort we make seems doomed to failure.**

PASTOR: O Lord, life would be dark if we could not pray to You in hard times. We feel the strength of Your love even when our problems are not solved or our burdens are not erased.

PEOPLE: **Give us the faith to continue to call and wait on You in prayer.**

UNISON: We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

ANTHEM

NOTICES AND CONCERNS

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH SOLO –Gayaneh Kachadourian

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURE READING:

Armenian: Luke 15 : 28 - 327 (pp. 1624-25)

English: II Corinthians 3 : 1 - 6 (pp. 1796-97)

SOLO – Gayaneh Kachadourian

ARMENIAN SERMON: "The Parable of the Lost Son"

***HYMN - # 65 – "Just As I Am" (VS. 1,5)**

ENGLISH SERMON: "You Are A Letter From Christ"

***HAYR MER - #133**

***BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE: "Park Kéz Dér, Asdvadz Mér"**

QUIET MEDITATION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*** Congregation is requested to stand.**

***** Latecomers may be seated.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME TO OUR CHANCEL THIS MORNING our own soloist, Gayaneh Kachadourian.

FOLLOWING THE COFFEE HOUR, the Board of Deacons will hold the February meeting in the Christian Education Room.

A.C.C. EXTEND ITS HEARTFELT SYMPATHIES to the Terterian and Kulha families on the passing of their husband, father and grandfather, Mr. Gregory Krikor Terterian, who entered his rest on Sunday, February 13, 2005, and whose funeral services were held at St. Sarkis Church, on Wednesday, February 16, 2005.

A.C.C. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL LENTEN LUNCHEON, will be held on Friday, March 11, 2005, at 12:00 noon. Menu: Lentel Kufta, Salad, Fish, and halva. Donation: \$12.00. Beautiful program and timely message. Make arrangements to bring in friends, men and women alike, are all welcome. Tickets are available and may be purchased from Frances Garabedian and Alice Kakousian.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Communion will be administered.

EASTER SUNDAY March 27, 2005 will begin with our annual Easter Breakfast, sponsored by the youth of the church, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. donation \$6.00. Easter Services are at 11:00 a.m.

EASTER FLOWERS: For Easter Lilies and Tulips on the Altar.

Number of Easter Lilies you wish to purchase at \$16.00 each: _____

Number of Tulips you wish to purchase at \$13.00 each: _____

Name of Donor: _____

In Honor / Memory of: (please circle one) --Please print clearly:

Deadline for placing an order is Sunday, March 20, 2005. Please, hand the information with your names to our Treasurers **Alice Kakousian and Frances Garabedian.**