

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

11:00 a.m.

May 1, 2005

ORDER OF WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE

CHIMES

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN - #114 "Praise To The Lord, The Almighty"

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

Our Heavenly Father, because of your great love we can come into Your house. Because of You we are truly happy. Your kindness protects us like a shield. Make Your way clear to us now as we gather to be led to Your Word. Through Jesus Christ, Who taught us to pray: " Our Father, Who art in heaven..."

*GLORIA PATRI

* * *

MORNING MEDITATION AND PRAYER:

PASTOR: An engine without fuel will not run. A computer without power will not work. An engine or a computer is just an ingenious piece of junk without the power source.

PEOPLE: We human beings are pretty much the same. We cannot live our lives fully and freely without the power of God's Spirit within us.

PASTOR: Without the Holy Spirit we are little more than ingenious pieces of junk. The disciples knew that Jesus had kept his promise to send the Holy Spirit to them after he left this world.

PEOPLE: The disciples saw the Holy Spirit at work in their preaching and healing. They healed the sick and converted the lost by the Power of the Holy Spirit.

PASTOR: We are heirs of that same promise almost two thousand years later. Let us claim the gift of the Spirit by doing the works of the spirit. Our Heavenly Father we pray that the Church may bear witness to the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: Our Heavenly Father, we pray that the Church may seek peace in the world through the power of the Spirit.

PASTOR: O God, we pray that the Church may give love to the world through the power of the Spirit.

PEOPLE: O God, we pray that the Church may offer healing to the world through the power of the Spirit.

PASTOR: Lord God, we pray that the Church may resist the evil in the world through the power of Your Spirit.

PEOPLE: Lord God, we pray that the Church may give hope to the world through the power of the Spirit.

PASTOR: O Lord our God, You lead us through the prompting of Your Holy Spirit to do the work of Christ in this world.

UNISON: O Lord our God, give us Jesus' eyes of love and hope. In His holy name we pray. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

ANTHEM

NOTICES AND CONCERNS

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING & SOLO- *Gayaneh Kachadourian*

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE READING:

Armenian: Matthew 13:13-16 (p. 1517)

English: I Peter 3: 15-18 (p. 1890)

SOLO – *Gayaneh Kachadourian*

ARMENIAN SERMON: *Hearing Life's Truths*

*HYMN - # 97 "Brightly Beams Our Father's Mercy" (vs. 1 & 2)

ENGLISH SERMON: *We Are Witnesses*

*HAYR MER - # 133

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL 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.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR THIS MORNING are sponsored by Mrs. Armina Boujoulian and family in memory of their husband, father and grandfather, Mr. Stephen Boujoulian.

THE COFFEE HOUR TODAY is sponsored by Mrs. Zarouhi Churikian and Sam Churikian, on the fortieth day of the passing of their husband and father, Jack Churikian.

THE MAY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS will be held today, following the Coffee Hour.

MOTHER'S DAY, SUNDAY MAY 8, 2005 this is your invitation to join us in the Morning Worship Service to pay tribute to our mothers. That afternoon at 5:00 p.m. is our annual Mother's Day Banquet. the Co-Chairpersons are Gayaneh Kachadourian and Aram Kakousian. Tickets are now available for sale. Donation: Adults \$20.00, (Ages 6-12 years) \$10.00. Ages under 6 years are free. We need sponsors, patrons and donors.

Please reserve for: Name: _____

Total Number Attending: _____

\$20.00 per Adult x _____ = \$ _____

\$10.00 (Ages 6-12) x _____ = \$ _____

Free (Under 6 years old)

Tickets are available now. Deadline for reservations is TODAY. Give your payment and reservations slip to Banquet Co-Chairs, Gayaneh Kachadourian, Aram Kakousian, or Alice Kakousian.

SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON : (Matthews 13: 13-16). The New Testament reports the Jesus healed people who were physically deaf. But today's Gospel reading deals with another kind of deafness that Jesus, apparently, could not heal. Spiritual deafness is no less a problem than it was for the elders of Israel or the first followers of Jesus. What is involved in this all-important process of hearing life's truths?

- 1. Obviously, the first thing is to listen with our ears.** We can never know what was meant until we know what was said.
- 2. The second step is to listen, not only with our ears, but also with our minds.** A common figure of speech says, "It went in one ear and out the other." In other words, it was not retained or considered.
- 3. The third step, without which no hearing of truth is complete, is to listen with the heart.** In The New Testament, the heart refers to that of a person that makes decisions and determines conduct. Jesus was speaking the truth about life. He wanted people to take it to heart and translate it into living. Today's reading ends with similar words – "Let everyone heed what he hears."