

*Pastor Makarios Darawi
Mr. Darryl Roenicke, Pianist*

11:00 A.M.

July 6, 2008

We welcome all who are worshiping with us, especially guests and newcomers. We invite you to take part in worship, to engage in the activities of the church and make this your home church.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMNS – #21 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (Vv. 1,2,4)
#88 “Faith Of Our Fathers”(Vv. 1,2)

***RESPONSIVE READING - #387 “A Litany For Independence Day”**

PASTOR: O Lord, who has made us one nation out of many peoples, amid our diversities of race and tradition unite us in a common love of freedom and in loyalty for our national life.

PEOPLE: **Continue in us that faith which guided our fathers across the seas and upheld them in the wilderness.**

PASTOR: Maintain in our generation the liberty which their devotion won, and the struggle for justice, equity and good will which they sought.

PEOPLE: **Help us to establish our land in every righteous way.**

PASTOR: Revive in the people of this land a spirit of devotion to the common goal, so that we may open new doors of hope to the neglected and oppressed. Cleanse our hearts from the greed which preys upon others; deliver our politics from corruption.

PEOPLE: **Lead us, O Lord, to righteousness.**

PASTOR: Give the spirit of wisdom to those entrusted with authority, that there may be peace within our borders, and that we may stand in our place among the nations of the earth, an example of justice and good will.

PEOPLE: **Let your peace, O Lord, rule in all our hearts.**

PASTOR: To every council where nations bring their hopes and fears, grant wisdom and mutual understanding, that distrust and hatred may be diminished.

PEOPLE: **Let your peace, O Lord, prevail throughout the earth.**

UNISON: **As you have made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth, amid all diversities of race and faith enable us to feel your all-embracing love, which calls all the sons of men your children. Amen.**

PRAYER

SONG - #1 “Blessed Be Your Name” (Songbook)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYER

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE IN ARMENIAN: *Romans 1:8-17 (P. 1747)*

MESSAGE IN ARMENIAN: “The 162nd Anniversary of the
Armenian Evangelical Church”

*HYMN – #258 “My Eyes Have Seen The Glory” (Vv.1, 3,4)

SCRIPTURE IN ENGLISH: *Hebrews 11:32-12:3 (Pp. 1876-77)*

MESSAGE IN ENGLISH: “Freedom”

*HAYR MER – #133

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: “Park K’oer D’oer, Asdvadz M’oer”

POSTLUDE

**Congregation is requested to stand
*** Latecomers may be seated*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to all the teachers, staff, and volunteers who helped this week with the Vacation Bible School.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL. This year we are offering a Sunday School class geared towards children ages 2-9 each Sunday between June 22 and Sept. 7. So plan on being with us whenever you are in town this summer.

AEUNA’S CAMP ARAVELK. A summer camp program for kids ages 10 to 17. This program provides the campers with many opportunities to experience the beautiful outdoors, while learning more about God’s Word. The camp is located in Greenville, New York, and it will be held on Sunday August 3rd, thru Saturday August 9th, 2008. To obtain more information please talk to Pastor Mak or call the church office.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY.

Pray for God’s protection, for continued freedom, peace and stability in this great country. Pray also for the Armenian Evangelical Church to continue being a strong witness to all Armenians and the world.

Synopsis of the Armenian Message

(Romans 1:8-17)

Today we are celebrating the 162nd anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Movement. Rev. Barkev Darakjian says, “The Armenian Evangelical Movement of the 19th century and evangelism have advanced concurrently, and have had a parallel history. Actually, the Armenian Evangelical Church is a product of evangelism; furthermore, evangelism is the *raison d’etre* and sole justification for the existence of the Armenian Evangelical Church. As regards to her concept of the gospel, both the revealed Living and written Words of God have become her sources of inspiration and conviction.”

The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans in 1:16 says, “I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.” This power of the gospel is what opened the eyes of the small group of students who, under the leadership of the principle of the Armenian theological seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Istanbul, got together to study the Bible in the 1830s. Rev. Barkev says, “Nobody in those days suspected that these out of class time studies would fire the minds of some students with a spirit of evangelism. Enlightened and empowered by the truth of the gospel, those students got organized under the name of Society For Piety, or Haygazounian Society, their sole purpose being evangelizing their people. Space does not allow us to go into all the reasons and the circumstances that lead this group to convert into a church, but on July 1, 1846, with forty members, the Armenian Evangelical Church was born. Again to quote Rev. Barkev, he says, “It is very important for us to know that both the Society For Piety, and later, the Armenian Evangelical Church felt that the only justification for their existence as a separate church was their obedience to the last commission of our Lord to his disciples, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Friends, as we celebrate our Evangelical Church’s 162nd anniversary, it is good to be reminded of our history and the purpose of having an Armenian Evangelical Church. Today, as in 1846, we exist “For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Revelation 1:2). The Armenian people, and all others, need to hear the powerful, life-transforming message of the gospel of Jesus Christ, now more than ever. Let us not be ashamed of the gospel.