

Pastor Makarios Darawi
Mrs. Susan Harrison, Choir Director and Organist

11:00 A.M.

July 5, 2009

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)
#258 “Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory” (Vv. 1,2,4)

***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

SCRIPTURE IN ENGLISH: *I Timothy 2:1-4 (P. 1846)*

MESSAGE IN ENGLISH: “The Christians and Civil Authorities”

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY
CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER
OFFERING- *Special Music*

Gayaneh Kachadourian

***HYMN** – #88 “Faith Of Our Fathers” (Vv. 1,3)

SCRIPTURE IN ARMENIAN: *2 Peter 2:17-22 (Pp. 1895-96)*

MESSAGE IN ARMENIAN: “Freedom Through Jesus”

REMINDERS

***HAYR MER** – #133

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: “Park K0ez D0er, Asdvadz M0er”**

POSTLUDE

**Congregation is requested to stand*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL. We are offering a Sunday School class geared towards children ages 2-9 each Sunday between June 28 and September 6. Older students will take turns helping with the class and attending the worship service. So plan on being with us whenever you are in town this summer.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY. Please pray for Mrs. Marie Arslanian, Ray Jernukian, and Nora Baylerian.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. & Mrs. Harold and Joyce Gant for the arrival of their first grandson, Corbin Alexander Rinoldi, born on Monday, June 29, 2009 to Karen and Russ Rinoldi, and to his big sister Sarah.

ACC 2009 YEAR TO DATE BUDGET

Budgeted stewardship and offerings \$77,000.00

Received to date (January - June) \$41,201.46

Monthly needs to meet year-end stewardship budget \$6,416.66

Total year budget \$181,320.00

Received to date (January - June) \$75,588.69

Synopsis of the Armenian Sermon

(2 Peter 2:17-22)

Today we are celebrating Independence Day in the USA, and it is also the 163rd anniversary of the founding of the Armenian Evangelical Church. It was established on July 1, 1846, in the Pera district of Istanbul, Turkey. In the passage that we have before us, Peter has some things to say that I believe are very much applicable to both, Independence Day and the establishment of the Armenian Evangelical Church.

Peter writes, "They (false prophets and teachers) promise them (people who listen to them) freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity – for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him" (V.19). Then he says, "If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ..." (V.20). Two important points: (1) We are all slaves to our sinful nature. We might like to think that we are free, but if we are honest with ourselves we have to agree with Peter that we are slaves of our depravity. (2) Only the salvation that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ offers can free us from our sin because He paid the penalty of sin on the cross.

Friends, real freedom is freedom from sin and its mastery over our lives. We were created by God to serve Him and glorify Him. It is only when we are freed from sin that we become truly free to serve God and glorify Him. The first Armenian Evangelicals understood this truth and their lives were transformed. After coming to a complete knowledge of the Savior Jesus Christ, they were never the same. They went out and shared this good news with others, and the rest is history as they say.

May you also experience the freedom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Happy 4th of July