

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

11:00 A.M.

March 6, 2011

*We welcome all who are worshipping 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 & SONGS – #54 “*There Shall Be Showers of Blessing*” (1,2,3)  
#4 “*Here I Am To Worship* (Songbook)

**PRAYER**

\*SONG – #36 “*How Great Is Our God*” (songbook -seated)

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

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**ENGLISH MESSAGE:** *Jonah* (Pp.1437-1439)

**“Just Like Jonah”**

**SANCTUARY CHOIR**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY**

**OFFERING** – *offertory music*

**ARMENIAN MESSAGE:** *Luke 19:10* (P. 1631)

**“Why Jesus Came To Our World”**

**REMINDERS**

\*HAYR MER – #133

\*BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: “*Park KØez DØer, Asdvadz MØer*”

**POSTLUDE**

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**\*Congregation is requested to stand**

\*\*\* Latecomers be seated

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE FELLOWSHIP HOUR** this morning is sponsored by the Arslanian, Eurdekian, Santikian and Melkisetian families in memory of parents Hagop and Marie Arslanian.

**THE ACC WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP** February meeting will be held next Sunday, March 13, 2011 following the fellowship hour.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS** Bible study will be held on Wednesday, March 9, at the Darawi home and on Friday, March 11, at the Arslanian home.

**ACC WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP LENTEN LUNCHEON.** The A.C.C. Women’s Fellowship is sponsoring their annual Lenten Luncheon on Friday, March 25 at 12:00 noon. Come enjoy a beautiful program. Both men and women are welcome. To RSVP please contact the church office.

**TODAY IS COMPASSION SUNDAY.** Compassion International is a Christ-centered, child-focused, church-based, evangelical Christian child development ministry that has reached out to children in need for more than 50 years. They assist over 1,000,000 children in more than 20 countries.

**EACH PRAYER RALLY – MARCH 10 at 7:00 pm.**

- **Woodside Bible Church**, 6600 Rochester Road, Troy.
- **Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville.
- **Bethesda Christian Church**, 14000 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY.**

E.A.C.H campaign ([www.eachtoday.com](http://www.eachtoday.com)).

**Synopsis of the Messages**

You may have heard of a guy named Jonah. He’s the one who had the unusual experience of being swallowed by a whale. But what you might not know is that a whale swallowed him because He didn’t care. He didn’t see people through God’s eyes. In fact, Jonah didn’t think most people even deserved a shot at amazing grace. God asks Jonah to go northeast by land to Nineveh. Instead, he goes southwest by the sea to Tarshish. Jonah was running away from God’s search and rescue mission. He refuses to go. So God sends a big wind and a big storm on that sea and the boat is in big trouble. The sailor’s thought the gods were against them big time (and they weren’t far off) so they started asking around about who’s who, and who’s done what. And they come to Jonah and He tells them he is running away from God and what to do about it: “*Pick me up and throw me into the sea,*” he replied, “*and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this big storm has come upon you*” (Jonah 1:12). So they huddle up, pray for God’s forgiveness, and then throw Jonah overboard “**Now the LORD provided a BIG fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights**” (1:17). God wasn’t finished with Jonah. Then God gives Jonah the exact same commission He gave him in the first place. The command hasn’t changed. Neither has God’s heart for people in Nineveh. And guess what . . . Jonah’s heart hasn’t changed either. He goes this time, because he knows what happens to runaway prophets. But he goes with NO HEART for these people. He goes, and he preaches God’s words of warning to Nineveh. They’ve got a 40-day grace period. That’s his message. And guess what? They all turn to God! “*The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth*” (3:5). The whole city turns to God and asks for His mercy, His forgiveness. All the way up to the king of Nineveh. These people call out for God’s mercy. “*When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened*” (3:10). God

forgives them. God has mercy on them. Why? Because this is God's great desire. God's great desire is to free people trapped in sin; to forgive them and bring them home.

*“But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD, “Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live” (Jonah 4:1-3).* God tries to reason with Jonah about the value of people, regardless of where they are at spiritually and morally. We're never told whether or not Jonah 'got it.' We're left hanging. Here's how the book ends: God says, I care for them . . . and you don't???

Friends, God lost something . . . and He wants it back. And He wants to use you and me to get it back. Your neighbor. Your friend. Your fellow student. Your co-worker. He wants them back! Will you go with God? Will you go for God? Will you go? Or will you run and hide?

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