***Pastor Hagop Haroutunian ~ Senior Pastor***

***The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian~ Minister Emeritus***

***Mrs. Susan Harrison~ Choir Director and Organist***

***Ms. Souzanne Pope ~ Office Administrator***

**Telephone: (248) 352-0680 - Email:** Office@accdetroit.org.

**11:00 a.m. July 16, 2023**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN:** *#4 “We Praise You, O God”*

**\*INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)**

God of vision and marketplace, be with us today as we come here to worship, so we will have the power of Your Spirit when we return to our work. Make this day, as well as all our days, holy, by helping us to receive every day as a new chance to be like Jesus. we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who taught us to pray: “Our Father, Who art in heaven….”

**\*GLORIA PATRI-***#79* *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**PASTOR:** We confess our sins to God, not to increase the weight of guilt but to feel the weight of glory in God’s forgiveness.

**PEOPLE:** **Let us therefore bring ourselves before God that we may hear this pardon.**

**PASTOR:** God of compassion, we bring our anxious cares to You today. We are worried with our personal concerns, about our nation and the world.

**PEOPLE: Father, receive our anxieties as a sign of our humanness and as a confession that we do not trust you as we should.**

**PASTOR:** We admit that we do things we ought not to do, and fail to do what we know is right. We are distressed by our failures.

**PEOPLE:** **God, deliver us from this bondage to death and help us to live again.**

**PASTOR:** Sometimes we feel good about ourselves; sometimes we hate ourselves, and the hate makes us bitter and mean.

**PEOPLE:** **God, forgive the ways we hurt other people because we are caught in the mire of self-doubt and self-disgust.**

**UNISON:** **O Lord, hear us, as in silence we open ourselves to you and tell you what we do not like about ourselves. Help us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH ANTHEM**

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANTHEM**

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *John 15:9-17 (p. 1677)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: Friendship and Our Great Friend**

**\*HYMN:** *#223 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (vs. 1,3)*

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *Matthew 7:21 (p. 1506)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: Do You Really Belong To Jesus?**

**\*HAYR MER:** *#275*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** *"Park Kéz Dér, Asdvadz Mér"*

**QUIET MEDITATION**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE WELCOME TO OUR PULPIT** our Minister Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian. Pastor Hagop Haroutunian and his wife, Nuné, are in Armenia for a mission trip. They will be back on the 28th of July.

**CHURCH JOYS AND CONCERNS:** Please continue praying for Susan Mousigian, Dr. Richard Marburger, George and Ann Krikorian, Jan Janigian, and Glenn Harrison.

**ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP** Eastern Region Fall Conference, with guest speaker. Lara Cholakian Khoury, will be held on Friday through Sunday, September 15-17, at the Radisson Hotel in Southfield, and here at A.C. C. To register and more information visit http://aeuna.org/aewf-er 2023. Please also register with Sheryl Marburger after the church service in the Social Hall.

**CHURCH RETREAT** We will be having a two day retreat, Friday and Saturday, August 25-26, at the Maryville Retreat Center, in Holly, MI. The cost is $100. The guest speaker will be Pastor Richard Afhsarian, from the Armenian Brethren Evangelical Church, in Pasadena, CA. The retreat will include a one night stay and four meals. The theme and topic will be ‘Living with Eternal Perspective’ The cost for Saturday is only $80.  A deposit of $50 is required when you sign up. Please sign up with Sheryl Marburger, after the church service, in the Social Hall. Deadline to pay in full is Sunday, July 30th.

**IS YOUR ANNIVERSARY OR BIRTHDAY** approaching? Why not share your celebration with the Church Family by sponsoring the Fellowship Hour or Altar Flowers. Please sign your name on the Bulletin Board, call the Church Office, or email Souzanne at Office@accdetroit.org.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

You claim to be a Christian. A true Christian belongs to Jesus. Do you really belong to Jesus? The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ will return to this world someday. When He returns to earth to claim His own, will you be one of them? How would you demonstrate that you know Him and belong to him? Jesus taught on this subject, he said in Matthew 7:21. “Not everyone who says to me ‘Lord, Lord,” shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but who does the will of my Father Who is in heaven.” How does your life reflect doing the will of God?

 Here are some questions to enable our lives to reflect the will of God: Am I diligent and faithful in personal devotion? Do I read my Bible and pray every day? Do I meditate on God’s Word and have hidden His law in my heart that I might not sin against Him? Am I diligent and faithful in my corporate devotion? Do I worship with God’s people, joyfully singing His praise, and eagerly offering prayers for the needs of people? Do I cheerfully give my tithes and offerings for the work of His church? Do I enjoy the fellowship of God’s people regularly? Do I conscientiously use my gifts and talents to build up the Body of Christ? Do I keep the Great Commandment? Do I love God with all my heart, soul, mind and being? And do I love my fellow humans as myself? Finally, do I bear witness to Jesus in my work, play, and neighborhood? Do I act Christ-like in my relationship with others?

 What will Jesus think of our excuses for not doing his Father’s will? “I am too tired. There isn’t enough time. It’s not fun. The people who are supposed to be Christians are mean and don’t like me. The service is too long. The organ is too loud. The sermon is too long and very boring. No one is nice to me at church. I won’t have any time to spend with my family.” Jesus answered that question in the next verses in Matthew 7:23; “And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me. You evildoers.”