**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

**26210 W. 12 Mile Road ~ Southfield, MI 48034**

***Rev. Hagop Haroutunian ~Senior Pastor***

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

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

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

**11:00 a.m. February 25, 2024**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#6 “Sing Praise to God”*

 *(vs. 1-2 in English, vs. 4 in Armenian)*

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

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before your lovely presence, with a heart of gratitude for all of your wonderful works. As we continue this Lenten season, we want to reflect on our lives deeper and see us be transformed more and more into your image and character. We want to draw closer with you and know you more intimately. We want to be a church that is united in love, uplifting and encouraging to one another, so that you would be honored in our lives. We give you all the glory and honor 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.*

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**RESPONSIVE READING: *Psalm 32***

**PASTOR:** Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**PEOPLE:** **Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

**PASTOR:** When I kept silent, my bones wasted away, through my groaning, all day long.

**PEOPLE: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

**PASTOR:** Then, I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, and will you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**PEOPLE: Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.**

**PASTOR:** You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

**PEOPLE:** **I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.**

**PASTOR:** Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding, but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

**PEOPLE:** Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord’s unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.

**UNISON: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *#13 “That’s Why We Praise Him”*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *John 15:5-17 (p. 1677)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: Fruit that Will last**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *John 15:20-27 (pp. 1677-1678)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: Being The Testimony for Jesus**

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

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE WELCOME ALL WHO ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US,** especially guests. We extend a very cordial welcome to newcomers to take part in the worship, to engage in the activities of the Church, and make this your church home.

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

**THE COFFEE HOUR TODAY** is sponsored by Siroon Karapetoff and family, in remembrance of Dianne’s passing.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS MORNING** are in honor of Ed Bayleran’s 80th birthday, sponsored by his loving wife Ann and his children.

**ACC MEN’S AND WOMEN’S BREAKFAST/FELLOWSHIP & BIBLE STUDY** will be held on Saturday, March 2nd, at 10:00a.m. (Bible Studies begin at 11:00a.m.) Please Sign-up after the Morning Worship Service in the social hall for the new men’s Bible Study book “Ten Men of the Bible” by Max Lucado, cost is $22.

**ACC MISSIONS COMMITTEE FOOD DRIVE** - Food donations for those in need, through Cass Community Social Services, Inc. in Detroit.   *Today is the final day* for collecting.  As always, monetary donations are more than welcome.  A box is provided in the Lobby.  Please make your checks payable to Cass Community Social Services, Inc.

**MOTHER’S DAY CHEESE BOREG FUNDRAISER** we thank all of you who supported this fundraiser. We also thank the men and women who came last Tuesday and helped make the 61-half trays and 9-full trays. We truly appreciate your effort and support.   If you made an order of cheese boreg, please see Sheryl and Hasmik after the Morning Worship Service, to pick up your order. If you have not paid yet and are paying with a check, please make the check payable to Armenian Congregational Church, (memo-boreg).

**ACC** is looking for volunteers to set up or cleanup for Coffee Hour**.** If you are interested in helping, please sign up after the Morning Worship Service in the Social Hall.

**GENTLE REMINDER** the Church pews, where the Bible, hymnal and song books are placed, is not a trash bin. We kindly ask that you place your candy wrappers, used tissues, Sunday bulletins and communion cups in the trash bin, by the exit of the sanctuary.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

Jesus had a private message for his disciples. The words He spoke to them were very personal; he spoke straight to their hearts (and ours). He kept nothing from them. He told everything, plainly, about the truth of following Him, without keeping any secrets.

**Here are some points to learn from Jesus’ teachings:**

1*.* ***“Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.”***None of us want to hear about suffering, but Jesus had to be honest with His followers about the cost of following Him. His disciples had to weigh the consequences and make a decision whether they would still want to follow Jesus, with the price they had to pay. Ultimately, they did and gave their lives for their master, because He gave His for them.

2***.  “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who goes out from the Father, will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.”*** Without the Spirit of God, we cannot do anything. It is only with the grace and help of the Holy Spirit that we are able to witness about Jesus. He enables us to be bold and courageous, to live a victorious Christian life, without backsliding.