**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

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Rev. Hagop Haroutunian, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

Susan Harrison, Choir Director and Organist

11:00 a.m. September 1, 2024

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**: “To God Be The Glory” #411,

vs.1-2 English; vs.1 Armenian transliteration:

Park, Park Asdood-zoh Vassn eer Médz Shnor-keen, See-rétz Ash-kharhn

Ayn-chahp doo-vahv Eer Vorteen, Nah Trav Eer Gyankn Ha-doot-zoom

Méhr Méghatz, Eermov Martotz Hah-mar Gyankee Toorn-néh Patz

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

Dear Lord, you created the heavens and the earth in six days, and rested on the seventh day. You also gave us the ability to work, and to rest on this day of the Lord’s resurrection that we call Sunday. We thank you that you always provide us with wisdom, strength, and health to work well. We put our full trust in your provision. It is through you that we can be faithful stewards in the work we do in our personal lives and for your church. Everything ultimately is done to bring honor and praise to your name. Help us do everything joyfully, without grumbling, so that you will be glorified in our labor and in our lives. We give you all the glory and honor, who taught us to pray:

*“Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.*

*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,*

*as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation*

*but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power,*

*and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.”*

**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 READING:** Labor Day

PASTOR: O God, the Great Creator and Master Workman of the entire universe, we thank you that you revealed yourself to us in Jesus the Carpenter, whose working hands bear eternal testimony to the dignity of work.

**PEOPLE**: **Bless all who serve us, and who have dedicated their lives to the ministry of others.**

PASTOR: Bless all the workers who labor so patiently, with so little appreciation.

**PEOPLE**: **Bless all who serve the public, who have to accept criticism, complaint, bad manners, and selfishness, at the hands of thoughtless people.**

PASTOR: Help the labor movement of our day to be worthy of its heritage. Save it from malice and bitterness.

**PEOPLE**: **Guard employers from lust for personal power and exploitation, and guide them in the service of the common good.**

PASTOR: Grant all classes of people a larger comprehension for the aspirations of labor.

**PEOPLE**: **Grant to laborers the wisdom to seek a world of peace with justice and liberty for all.**

PASTOR: Bless every humble worker who, through conscientious performance of labor, preaches eloquent sermons without words.

**UNISON**: **Teach us all, O Lord, the divine dignity of labor, whatever sort it be, if only from you and for you, to the well-being of your creatures and to the glory of your Holy name. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**DOXOLOGY**, #1

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG**: “Open The Eyes Of My Heart,” #9

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING**: Colossians 3:22-25, 4:1 (p.1835)

**ENGLISH SERMON**: “Working With A Sincere Heart And Reverence For The Lord”

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING**: Ecclesiastes 3:9-14 (p.1037)

**ARMENIAN SERMON**: “Finding Joy In Our Labor”

**HAYR MER**: #275

**BENEDICTION**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**: “Park Kez Der, Asdvadz Mer”

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**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 to make this your church home.

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

**PLEASE JOIN US - WEEKLY PRAYER**: Mondays, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.

**WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE NEW WOMEN’S STUDY:** “Believing Jesus, A Journey Through the Book of Acts,” by Lisa Harper. Ann Bayleran will be leading this monthly study, which will begin next Saturday, September 7th with a breakfast, joined with the men at 10:00 a.m. Deadline is today to sign-up in the social hall. You may have the church purchase the book, or you may order it on Amazon for approximately $16.00.

**THE LORD’S SUPPER**: will be served next Sunday, September 8th.

**ARMENIA MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER**: Rev. Hagop and Nune will be going on a missionary trip to Armenia from September 15-27. They plan to visit several churches to evangelize. Donations may be made for those churches and their family members who have various needs, such as church renovation, sound system, A.C. unit, the less fortunate, the sick, etc. Please make your donations in the Social Hall, and make your check donation to the Armenian Congregational Church. In the memo section, write: “Armenia Mission Trip.” Thank you.

**ARMENIAN SYNOPSIS**

As we come to celebrate Labor Day, King Solomon did impart some wisdom to us about how we should go about in our daily labor. He shows us what God intends for us to get out of the work we do.

**Here are some points about how to labor with a purpose**:

1. **“What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time.”** How do we answer the question King Solomon asks of what we gain from our labor? Some might say wealth, others say joy and purpose, and others might say nothing, because they don’t like their job. As Christians, we are called to do our best as if we are doing it for the Lord. That means working with integrity. At the end, the Lord will reward those who diligently and faithfully serve Him, whether that is secular or spiritual labor.
2. **“I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live, that each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.”** We all would want the wishes of Solomon to be true for all of us, but we know we have obstacles in this life that we need to face each and every day in the workplace. We may not always be satisfied, content, and have a heart of gratitude.