**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 15, 2024

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**: “We Worship You, O God” #4,

vs.1-2 English; vs.3 Armenian transliteration:

Mishd Park oo Kovést, Dank Zohvadz Karnookeen Vor Mér

Méghkeh Chenchetz oo Nérétz Tartsogheen Ahlé

Looyah Méhr Prgeecheh, Alelooyah Ahmen Ahlé

Looyah Koog-déh parkeh, Srpéh Méz Nohrén

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

Dear Heavenly Father, we come this morning before your holy presence with reverence and thanksgiving. We thank you for your ongoing love for us, each and every day. We yearn and wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ to take us into your glory and kingdom. We ask that you prepare us to meet Christ, our groom, by doing the work you have called us, to proclaim your love to all those we encounter. Help us be spotless and ready to meet our Lord, when He returns to take us to our eternal home with you. 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:** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

PASTOR: Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

**PEOPLE**: **While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.**

PASTOR: But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all sons of the light and sons of the day.

**PEOPLE**: **We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.**

PASTOR: So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us, be alert and self-controlled.

**PEOPLE**: **For those who sleep, sleep at night; and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.**

PASTOR: But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

**PEOPLE**: **For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

PASTOR: He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

**UNISON**: **Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**DOXOLOGY**, #1

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG**: “Thy Word,” #15

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING**: Luke 12:35-48 (p.1618-1619)

**ENGLISH SERMON**: “Being Ready for the Lord’s Return”

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING**: 2 Peter 3:8-14 (p.1896-1897)

**ARMENIAN SERMON**: “Spotless and Blameless for the Day of the Lord”

**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 prayers for Armenia, Glenn Harrison, Jan Janigian, Susan Mousigian, and Dr. Richard Marburger.

**LIFETIME, DEACON DAVID TERZIBASHIAN** will cover the pulpit next Sunday, September 22.

**PASTOR HAGOP AND HIS WIFE NUNE** will be on a mission trip in Armenia, September 15-27. They will visit several churches to evangelize. Thank you to those who have donated to the various needs of the churches. You can reach Rev. Hagop via email at: pastorhagop@accdetroit.org

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

**SUNDAY USHER GREETERS ARE NEEDED:** Please see Chuck.

**COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**: Please sign-up in the Social Hall.

**SPONSOR COFFEE HOUR OR ALTAR FLOWERS:** Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the foyer.

**ARMENIAN SYNOPSIS**

The second coming of the Lord Jesus is spoken of throughout the Bible. Peter also emphasized on the return of Jesus to this earth, to take all those who belong to Him. He gives us some instructions on how to be ready for that day.

**Here are some points about the coming of the Lord**:

1. **“He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”** **(2 Peter 3:9)** God’s desire is that the whole world would turn to Him, but that is not always the case. One of the ways that we can enhance the path for people to come to Christ is by our testimony. People usually want to hear real life experiences in order to be touched by the message of Christ. If our lives reflect that of Christ, then we know our testimony will be effective.
2. **“So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless, and at peace with Him.” (2 Peter 3:14)** As Christians, we are called to be spotless and blameless. The world should not be able to put a finger on us and blame us for being hypocrites; rather our testimony should be that of true Christians who are devoted to Christ and in His will. With this confidence, we ought to live and wait for the coming of our Lord!