**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 22, 2024

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**: “Take My Life, God, Let It Be” #255

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

Dear Lord, we come this morning into your holy presence with reverence because you are the great God of our lives. It is you that we worship, because you alone deserve all honor and praise. We pray that you help us live a life of holiness, so that sin will not be our master. Help us resist the devil when he tries to whisper into our ears or tempts us to sin. Help us heed and obey your commands and not give any room for sin to grow in our lives. We want to live a life of victory over sin and over the dark powers of the devil, who has been defeated by the cross and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

**A LITANY FOR STEWARDSHIP**

LEADER: Our God of Spirit and truth, we live in a money-motivated culture, where a person is judged not by who he is on the inside but by what he is on the outside.

**PEOPLE**: **In our daily tasks we have submerged the Christian values of stewardship, comradeship, integrity, and hard work beneath underhanded dishonesty, blind ambition, cushioned greed, and faulty workmanship.**

LEADER: Why have we wasted our time?

**PEOPLE**: **What have we done with our talents?**

LEADER: Why have we lost faith in what you can do through us?

**PEOPLE**: **We are guilty, Lord, for betraying you into the hands of material security and for selling our souls for less than thirty pieces of silver.**

LEADER: Liberate us from the illusion that money buys everything and that everything comes at the right price.

**PEOPLE**: **Forgive us. Help us. Love us. -- So that we may possess the vision to recognize the right, the courage to accept your truth, the wisdom to love others.**

LEADER: Lord God our Provider and Sustainer, have we forgotten how to be thankful in an age of luxury and economic growth?

**PEOPLE: Does our wealth blind us to the poverty of others?**

LEADER: We have been extravagant with our use of material possessions. We have surrendered to low ideals. We have ignored eternal hopes.

**UNISON**: **Lord, deliver us. We beg forgiveness. Provide us then with a new opportunity to prove ourselves worthy of your blessings. And may we seek to follow our Lord and Master with thankful and joyful hearts. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**PRAYER**

**DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG**:

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness,” #19,

vs.1-2 English; vs.3 Armenian

**ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING**:

Luke 16:1-15 (p.1625-1626)

**ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SERMON**: “Are We Shrewd Stewards?”

**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.

**WE WELCOME TO OUR PULPIT LIFETIME DEACON, MR. DAVID TERZIBASHIAN.** He will lead the Morning Worship Service. Pastor Hagop and his wife Nune are on a mission trip, in Armenia through September 27th, visiting several churches to evangelize. Thank you to those who have donated for the various needs of the churches there.

**COFFEE HOUR AND ALTAR FLOWERS**: are sponsored by Sharon and Brian Theil, and by Carol and Dennis Leslie and their families – in honor of Siroon Karapetoff’s birthday!

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WEEKLY PRAYER**: Every Monday, on 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.