**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Hagop Haroutunian, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

Susan Harrison, Choir Director and Organist

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11:00 a.m. October 6, 2024

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You,” #7

vs.1-2 English; vs.4 Armenian

Miatsék Médz Yercha-khoompeen, Aravodyahn Asd-ghé-roon

Seero Hayrn Deeréh Vra-mez, Gahbéh Yégh-pay-root-yan Sér

Ohn Haratch Yérkov Tsén-Dzootyan, Baykaree métch Hagh-ta-gahn

Rahveeratz Yérkn oorakh Yérgnee, Tzénd-zootyan Yérkn Ahvélee

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

Dear Lord, we thank you for bringing us together to worship you this morning. We thank you that you are always faithful to your word and to your promises. Whenever we go through hardship, you are there to help us and strengthen us, so we can continue to strive to do your will, even if it means being persecuted. Help us never give in to the evil one; instead help us fight the good fight of faith until the end. When we are weak, strengthen us so that we always come out victorious over sin and the evil one. 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**: Hymn #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. Amen.

**\* RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 91:1-13

PASTOR: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

**PEOPLE**: **I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”**

PASTOR: Surely He will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence.

**PEOPLE**: **He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.**

PASTOR: You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

**PEOPLE**: **A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.**

PASTOR: You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

**PEOPLE**: **If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the Lord, who is my refuge—then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.**

PASTOR: For He will command His angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

**UNISON**: **You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**PRAYER**

**\* DOXOLOGY:** Hymn #1

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG**: “Here I Am To Worship,” #4

**THE LORD’S SUPPER**

1. Giving of the Bread
2. Giving of the Cup

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: 2 Corinthians 6:3-10 (p.1799-1800)

**ENGLISH SERMON**: “The True Life of a Believer”

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE**: 2 Corinthians 11:23-27 (p.1805-1806)

**ARMENIAN SERMON**: “A Christ-Like Character”

**\* HAYR MER**: #275

**\* BENEDICTION**

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

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**\* Please stand if you are able**

**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.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WEEKLY PRAYER**: Every Monday, on Zoom at 6:30 p.m.

**HOLY TRANSLATORS FEAST:** Thursday, October 10th at 6:30 p.m. – at our Armenian Congregational Church. Guest speaker is Rev. Fr. Hrant Kevorkian. There will be an afterglow. All are cordially invited.

**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**

Paul was truly a man of God. He endured so much for the sake of Christ. It is hard to compare him to anyone, because he suffered beyond the ordinary; he stood strong for the gospel against all oppositions.

**Here ae some characteristics of Paul**

1. **“I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers.”** None of us want to go through this kind of suffering, but when you stand up for something you strongly believe in, you may end up paying a price for it. In the end, however, the reward is great and the outcome is beyond imagination. Paul’s work still speaks, to this day, of the many lives he touched.
2. **“I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.”** Sometimes, going through hardship truly sharpens our character in becoming like Christ. Maturity and growth sometimes can only come when we go through the fire. We need to allow God to do His work in our lives and not to run away from difficulties.