**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Hagop Haroutunian, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

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11:00 a.m. October 13, 2024

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**: “We Worship You, God,” #14

vs.1-2 English; vs.3 Armenian

Lézoo Gah Badmél Khénamkét Anhoon Méhr

Otn-oo-looysun Yén Kézmov Vogho-ghoon Péh-khi

Lérnérén oo Geechnéh Tashdn-ee-vahr Tsogheen

Ahnts-re-veen Métch Kudnuvee Sérut Var

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

Dear Lord, we are grateful that you have blessed us this Sunday to come together to worship you as your church. We thank you for calling us your very own. We rejoice in knowing that you are the God of love and compassion. We can approach you with joy and confidence knowing that your love will never cease for us. We pray that you keep us united in love. Help us to be well rooted in Christ and never be shaken by the evil one. Help us, as your church, to flourish and grow in our relationship with you and with one another. 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. Amen.

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Christian Conduct

PASTOR: I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

**PEOPLE**: **Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

PASTOR: Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.

**PEOPLE**: **Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor.**

PASTOR: Never lag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord.

**PEOPLE**: **Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.**

PASTOR: Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

**PEOPLE**: **Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited.**

PASTOR: Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

**PEOPLE**: **If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all.**

PASTOR: Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to God.

**PEOPLE**: **Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

**UNISON**: **May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**PRAYER**

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG**: “Beautiful One,” #38

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING**: Colossians 1:3-14 (p.1831-1832)

**ENGLISH SERMON**: “The Growing Church”

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING**: Colossians 2:6-8 (p.1833)

**ARMENIAN SERMON**: “Rooted and Built Up In Christ”

**\* 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**: Continue prayers for Armenia, Glenn Harrison, Jan Janigian, Susan Mousigian, Dr. Richard Marburger, April and Nicole Tini.

**OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE TINI FAMILY**: To April and her daughter, Nicole, and all those who have been affected by the loss of their beloved husband and father, Dennis Tini, who went to be with the Lord on Monday, October 7. The Funeral Service is today, Sunday at 11:00 AM, and Visitation hours are noon to 5:00 PM at: Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

**BI-WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY:** will resume this coming Thursday, October 17, 6:30 PM, in person and on zoom.

**ACC MISSIONS COMMITTEE:** will be conducting a Fall/Winter Clothing Drive for the Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac for the next two Sundays, October 20 and October 27. Donations of all types of winter clothing for men, women, and children will be accepted. As always, monetary donations are more than welcome. A box will be provided on a table in the Lobby, along with a sign with instructions: make your checks payable to the Grace Centers of Hope. Thank you in advance for your donations.

**Armenian Synopsis**

As Paul writes to the church of Colossae, he encourages them to remain fervent in Christ, just as when they first received Him as Lord and Savior.

**Here are some examples by which Paul encourages the church to stand firm**:

1. **“Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”** Do you remember the first day you received your first job? Do you remember when you first got married? Do you recall when you first became a Christian? It is common for us to see the fire die down after a while, after the initial reaction of something good happening to us. The goal is to keep the fire and desire in the same way as when first receiving it. It is the same when it comes to our love for Christ. He should always be our first love.
2. **“See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world (principles) rather than on Christ.”** So long as we keep the foundation of our faith rooted in Christ, we will be able to withstand any ideology that comes against the Word of God. Nothing should take us captive; rather, we take captive any thought that sets itself up against Christ.