**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

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11:00 a.m. July 13, 2025

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN** - #219 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

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

Voh Yérp Bidi Ménk Zine Bashdénk ee Métch Kuntatz Yérgneetz

Anor Yérkénk oo Zine Gochénk, Ahrkah Déhr Aménitz

Anor Yérkénk oo Zine Gochénk, Ahrkah Déhr Aménitz.

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

 O Gracious Father, Who through Your love and by Your Son, has worked out the reconciliation of mankind; grant that by following Your commandments and allowing love to motivate us in action, word and deed, we may be united to You and to all Your children, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, Who taught us to pray:

*“Our Father, Who art in heaven…”*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

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**RESPONSIVE READING: THE LITANY OF LOVE**

**PASTOR:** We have seen the greatness of God’s love revealed to us through the words and deeds of Jesus Christ. Let us look to His life as an example of how we should express love in our daily life. His life on earth was a witness to the power of God, and His words gave praise to Him for all things.

**PEOPLE: Let us praise God for all His gifts to us, and express our gratefulness through our Christ-like living.**

**PASTOR:** Jesus expressed love for those who had sinned and treated them as equals, when they repented of their sin.

**PEOPLE: Let us not be critical of those who have fallen, but express our love to them and help them grow in faith.**

**PASTOR:** Jesus indicated that love should motivate our actions with those in need, regardless of their status in life.

**PEOPLE: Let us not forget that all men are brothers to us, and that our love and concern should include them.**

**PASTOR:** Jesus even loved those who hated Him and led Him to the cross, and He asked the Father to forgive them.

**PEOPLE: Let us be willing to forgive all men of their sins against us, no matter how bad they might be.**

**PASTOR:** Jesus died upon the cross, that He might reveal God’s love for us as sinners and as His children.

**PEOPLE: Let us see the potential greatness of all men, and what they can contribute to the Kingdom of God.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANTHEM**

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING:** *Proverbs 12:17-22 (p.1001)*

**ENGLISH SERMON:** *“Honesty and Integrity”*

**\*HYMN** #246*“O Savior, Let Me Walk With You” (vs.1,2)*

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING:** *1 Samuel 16:1-8 (p.443-444)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON:** *“Human and Divine Perspectives”*

**\*HAYR MER**

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**\*Congregation is requested to stand. \*\*\*Latecomers may be seated.**

**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.

**THIS SUNDAY, JULY 13TH:** Today’s coffee hour is sponsored by Roger and Nancy Berschbach, in memory of their dear son, Trevor McClintock.

**Synopsis of the Armenian Sermon**

 It was time to select a new king for the Jewish people. Prophet Samuel was entrusted with the selection. He was to go to Jesse’s house and select one of his seven sons. Samuel selected Eliab, the handsomest of all. But God said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

 There are four major observations in this story:

1. **First**, people see different things in the same situation. The following couplet explains it eloquently: “Two men looked out from prison bars; one saw mud, the other the stars.” What do we see, mud or the stars?
2. **Second**, because people look on the outward appearances, they see what they look for. What do we see in a person or an organization? Do we see what we want to see, or do we see some depth of beauty?
3. **Third**, because people look on the outward appearance, they tend to see the sins of others more easily than their own.
4. **Fourth**, God sees in people more than externals. Our real beauty does not lie in outward appearances. If there is a beauty in us, it has to do with the beauty of the spirit, with our dedication to God, with our concern for people. That is the inner beauty that does not fade away. God sees the inner beauty; Jesus saw beyond the externals. He admonishes us to do the same.