**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

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11:00 a.m. September 7, 2025

**HOMECOMING SUNDAY!**

**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)

 Almighty God, as we gather in this time of worship, let us share in the power of Your Holy Spirit. And by this power, fill our faith with goodness; our goodness with knowledge; our knowledge with godliness; our godliness with kindness; and our kindness with love; through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

*“Our Father, Who art in heaven…”*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

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**A LITANY FOR THIS MORNING:**

**PASTOR:** No promise can be proved true, except in the living. A promise binds the future, which does not yet exist, so there can be no proof of a promise.

**PEOPLE: We must make promises on faith and take promises on trust. We must have faith in ourselves to make good on our promises.**

**PASTOR:** We must have trust in the strength of the other, who makes us a promise.

**PEOPLE: We have our citizenship in heaven, which means that we must live on the promises of our faith.**

**PASTOR:** Making and taking promises have a way of shaping the future. We help create the future through the promise we make and take. Let us pray for the courage to accept the promises of God. *Our Heavenly Father, we pray that we might trust Your promise of health, in a time of serious illness*.

**PEOPLE: Our Heavenly Father, we pray that we might trust Your promise of prosperity, in a time of financial hardship.**

**PASTOR:** Gracious God, we pray that we might trust Your promise of forgiveness, in a time of personal guilt.

**PEOPLE: Gracious God, we pray that we might trust Your promise of victory, in a time of crushing failure.**

**PASTOR:** Lord God, we pray that we might trust Your promise of eternal life, in a time of fading life.

**PEOPLE:** Lord God, we pray that we might trust Your promise of a promised land, in a time of doubt.

**PASTOR:** Our loving Father, help us not to give up on the promises, but use the trying times to build faith and trust in Your word.

**UNISON: We pray these things, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANTHEM**

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING:** *Matthew 7:24-27 (p.1506)*

**ENGLISH SERMON:** ***How Are We Building Our Lives?***

**\*HYMN** #256 *“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” (vs.1,2,4)*

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING:** *Hebrews 11:23-27 (p.1876)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON:** ***Moses: The Man of God***

**\*HAYR MER #275**

**\*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.

**TODAY IS OUR HOMECOMING SUNDAY**! Please join us for fellowship and a light lunch, following the worship service.

**THE BOARD OF DEACONS:** TODAY will have its meeting at 1:00pm in the Conference Room.

**NEXT SUNDAY, REV. VAHAN H. TOOTIKIAN WILL BE OUT OF TOWN.** The worship service will be conducted by Deacon David Terzibashian.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

 The Book of Chronicles calls Moses, “The Man of God.” Napoleon called him, “The greatest military genius this world has known.” He was a man of God, is a possible prototype of every man. What does it mean to be a man of God?

1. **First, Moses believed in the existence of God.** At the burning bush, before the Red Sea, on Mount Sinai, and in the wilderness, Moses heard a voice. It was God’s voice, and this was a true encounter with God.
2. **Second, Moses not only believed in God’s existence, but he trusted himself to the providence of God.** God was at work in his life from birth until death. The most dramatic test of his trust came at the Red Sea, as God ordered His people to cross the Sea.
3. **Third, Moses, the man of God, not only believed in God’s existence and trusted in His providence, but he acted in line with the will of God.** The letter to the Hebrews describes Moses as a man who, “refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to share the ill-treatment with the people of God, than enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.”
4. **Fourth, Moses lived ever-after in the presence and by the power of God.** He stood before Pharaoh, as he faced the crisis of the Red Sea, as he was met by the complaints of his own people, as he fought his way through the wilderness. For forty years, he lived and moved and had his being, in the presence of God and found his support in the power of God.