

Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit  
26210 W. 12 Mile Road ~ Southfield, MI 48034  
Telephone: (248) 352-0680; Fax (248) 352-5568  
Mr. Matthew DeRaad, Organist-Choir Director  
Rev. Makarios Darawi

11:00 A.M.

January 1, 2006

Armenian Christmas & New Year

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

**CHIMES AND LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

\***OPENING HYMNS** - # 5 "*Come, Thou Almighty King*" (vs. 1,2,3)  
# 28 "*Aha Mezee Manoog Dzunav*" (vs. 1,2,5)

\***RESPONSIVE READING** - *Please see inserts*

\***INVOCATION**

\* **HAYR MER** - # 131

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**ANTHEM**

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOYS & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

\***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

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**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING:** *Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian*

**ARMENIAN SERMON:** *Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian*

\***HYMNS** #101 "*Father, Here We Dedicate This New Year*" (vs. 1, 2)  
#74 "*Take My Life, And Let It Be*" (vs.1, 2)

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING:** *Romans 3:21-31(Pages1750-51)*

**ENGLISH SERMON:** "*Is God Like Santa Claus?*"

**HYMN** #30 "*Loor Keesher, Soorp Keesher*"(vs. 1&3)

\***BENEDICTION**

\***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** "*Park K<sup>2</sup>ez D<sup>2</sup>er, Asdvadz M<sup>2</sup>er*"

**QUIET MEDITATION**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

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*\*\*Congregation is requested to stand*

*\*\*\* Latecomers may be seated*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME ALL WHO ARE WORSHIPING WITH US**, especially guests. We extend a very cordial welcome to newcomers to take part in worship, to engage in the activities of the Church and make this your Church home.

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTER AND THE FELLOWSHIP HOUR** today are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Ohanes and Lena Bouladian, in memory of Lena's mother.

**THE FELLOWSHIP HOUR CAKE** is donated by Mr. and Mrs. Archie and Susan Gopigian in memory of her brother Dr. George Kadian

**DEDICATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.** On January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 following the Sunday morning worship service, the A.C.C. Fellowship hall will be dedicated in honor of Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian.

**INSTALLATION OF THE CHURCH OFFICERS.** There will be an installation service for the newly elected members of the board of Trustees and Deacons on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 during our Sunday morning worship. We kindly request that all the continuing and the newly elected members of both boards be present.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES.** The offering envelopes are here. You can pick them up from the hall entrance. If you do not find your envelope or you do not have one, please inform the church office or talk to Alice Kakousian.

**OUR NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP SERVICE**, will be on Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. The first Sunday of the year will also be a communion Sunday.

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY.DATE CHANGE.** Our Tuesday night Bible study group will be off for the next three weeks. We will resume our meetings on Wednesdays instead of Tuesdays starting Wednesday January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us in the Christian Education building as we study the book of James.

**NURSERY NEWS.** We will be cleaning and painting the nursery and the pre-school rooms on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Anyone who can help for a few hours between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. is welcome.

**CHURCH JOYS AND CONCERNS.** Please continue to pray for Andrew Mason, Barbara Rosa, Bud Gasser, and Nora Baylerian.

**THANK YOU.** Mr. & Mrs. Bill and Alice Riley, would like to *thank* all the church members and friends, who send them cards and called them to comfort them and support them in their time of sorrow.

**PRAYER TIME.** Come join us every third Sunday of the month for a prayer time right here in the sanctuary immediately following the Sunday Morning Worship.

### **Synopsis of the Armenian Message**

(John 1:1-14)

As the world celebrates the “Holidays” with parties, gifts, and Santa Claus, we as Christians celebrate Christmas. We celebrate Christ Jesus, the Son of God, born and revealed.

John the disciple has a unique way of writing about the birth and origin of Jesus. Unlike Matthew and Luke, John does not start with Jesus’ earthly life, but starts with whom Jesus was, is, and will always be. So, what do we learn from these verses about Jesus?

#### **1. Jesus is Eternal (v.1a)**

Micah 5:2 reads, “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, *whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.*” Although this child was born in Bethlehem on a given day and year, he has his origins from eternity. “In the beginning was the Word,” means that he always was. He has always existed.

#### **2. Jesus is God (v.1c)**

The humble birth of this child in a manger of a stable in Bethlehem does not convey anything special about him, yet he is God (v.1c). In verse 14 we read, “*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.*” God came to us in human form through the birth of Jesus. He is called Immanuel – which means, “*God with us.*”

#### **3. Jesus is the light of the World**

Jesus came as a life giving light to this world that was in darkness and condemned to death as a result of sin. The angels told the shepherds, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David *a Savior* has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.” Jesus is the light that brings salvation.

Do you know the Christ of Christmas? Do you know the eternal God who gives life? “Receive him and believe in his name and he will give you the right to become a child of God, born of God.”

May this Christmas bring Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men on whom his favor rests. May it also bring light, hope, joy, and love to all.