

ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Pastor Hagop Haroutunian~ Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian~ Minister Emeritus Mrs. Susan Harrison~ Choir Director and Organist Telephone: (248) 352-0680; Fax (248) 352-5568

11:00 A.M.

April 19th, 2020

SUNDAY SERVICE

ORDER OF WORSHIP CALL TO WORSHIP/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN – "Lord I Need You" INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you on this Sunday after Easter. We reflect on the life of Jesus after His resurrection in which He spent forty days with His disciples to affirm His resurrection and love for them. Because of your resurrection, we now live in this new and living hope that one day we too will rise from the dead when you come again to take us home. We pray that we keep this covenant of your love that came to us through your own blood that was shed on the cross, until the end. We want to follow you and obey you no matter what the circumstance may be. Teach us to love one another the same way you loved us by giving your life for us. We give you all glory and honor, who taught us to pray, "Our Father..."

THE APOSTLES' CREED (in unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN – "God of Wonders" ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE: John 21:15-23 | Luke 9:23-26 ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SERMON: Following the Resurrected Lord| Following Jesus is Costly

BENEDICTION HAYR MER

SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON

After His resurrection, Jesus remained with His followers for forty days to affirm His presence and promises to His followers that He will be with them and He will not leave them as orphans. Jesus wanted to make it clear to His followers that it takes full commitment to follow Him.

Here are three focal points about following Jesus:

1. First, Jesus said we must deny ourselves: To deny oneself means to no longer live for oneself but rather for Christ. This takes discipline, but through time the Holy Spirit helps us to live for Him and serve Him only.

2. Second, Jesus said we must carry our own cross daily: Life will not always be easy following Jesus. Jesus warned of possible persecution. We must be ready to face it with the power of the Holy Spirit and not give in.

3. Third, Jesus said if we lose our life for Him, we will find it: Just as Christ gave His life for us, we also must be ready to die for Him, if need be. Jesus is worthy of our lives.

PASTORAL PRAYER OFFERING