

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.

June 14th, 2020

SUNDAY SERVICE

ORDER OF WORSHIP CALL TO WORSHIP/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN – "My Redeemer Lives" INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

O Sovereign Lord, we come before your holy presence to worship and adore you. Your glory fills the whole universe. We thank you for your great love that you have for us. We are forever grateful for your great promises that you will never leave us nor forsake us. Help us remain faithful to you even if it means we suffer for your name. We pray that you fill us with your Holy Spirit so we can conquer all obstacles that come in our way. Help us be bold to witness the good news of your Son to those we encounter. Let the Gospel shine through our lives to those who do not know you. We give you all the honor and praise, who taught us to pray, "Our Father..."

PASTORAL PRAYER OFFERING

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 – "Nearer, My God to Thee" ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:18-24 | 1 Peter 4:12-13 ENGLISH AND ARMENIAN SERMON: *Present Suffering and Future Glory | Sharing in Christ's Suffering*

BENEDICTION HAYR MER

SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON

As Christians we are called not only to be receive His blessings but also to suffer for His name, if and when it becomes necessary. Christ suffered for us, in the same manner, we also need to be ready to suffer for Him if persecution takes place. To do so, we need to put on the full armor of God.

Here are three points about suffering for His name:

1. Suffering is a way of testing our faith: Love is tested in all relationships, including the one we have with Christ. When we love someone, we would do anything to please them. In the same manner, Christ deserves our best because He loved us first without conditions.

2. We should rejoice in suffering: It should be an honor and a joy to suffer for the name of Jesus. If anyone, he deserves our everything. He gave all of Him for us, and so He deserves all of us. We truly are blessed to even receive insults for the name of Jesus.

3. Suffering for the name means we are doing God's will: Peter says if we are reviled for the name of Jesus, then the Spirit of God is resting upon us. It is better to please God with suffering than to seek comfort and not live in God's will.