***Pastor Hagop Haroutunian ~ Senior Pastor***

***The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian~ Minister Emeritus***

***Mrs. Susan Harrison~ Choir Director and Organist***

***Ms. Souzanne Pope ~ Office Administrator***

**Telephone: (248) 352-0680 - Email:** Office@accdetroit.org.

**11:00 a.m. August 6, 2023**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#398 “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”*

 *(vs. 1-2 English, vs. 3 Armenian)*

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

Dear Lord, thank you for calling us to be your witness in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We pray that you fill us with your Holy Spirit to be courageous witnesses for you to a world that so desperately needs your love. Help us share your love with others with patience and prayer. Let our testimony be effective and fruitful. May our lives reflect that of Christ in all that we think, say, and do.  We give you all the glory and honor, who taught us to pray:

 “Our Father, Who art in heaven….”

**\*GLORIA PATRI-***#79* *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**RESPONSIVE READING:** *The Christian Mission*

**PASTOR:** Lord, we pray for what happens in our midst today. Here may the victory of your Kingdom be joyfully announced and the world discover that this good news is true.

**PEOPLE:** **May we be called to be your servants in the service of people.**

**PASTOR:** May we face and accept that self-denial and self-giving which leads to genuine life.

**PEOPLE: May we come to see our vocations as opportunities to minister in your name, our citizenship as a chance to witness to your Lordship.**

**PASTOR:** May we train and equip one another to be the salt, the leaven, the light of home, school, office, factory, neighborhood, city, of every place where evil tries to obscure or blot out your love.

**PEOPLE:** **May we become aware of the opportunities for sharing our faith with others that they might know of your love and salvation.**

**PASTOR:** May we learn to take care of those who suffer from physical and spiritual hunger.

**PEOPLE:** **May your word inspire us to a renewed awareness of our obligations as Christians to respond to this mission.**

**UNISON: Help us, O Lord to share our faith, love, time, talent and treasure with others, that they might know your love and salvation. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNION SONG:** *#4 “Here I Am to Worship”*

1. Giving of the Bread
2. Giving of the Cup

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *Acts 17:16-34 (pp. 1723-1724)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: Knowing How to Witness**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *Acts 17:10-12 (p.1723)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: Receiving God’s Word With Eagerness**

**\*HAYR MER:** *#275*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** *"Park Kéz Dér, Asdvadz Mér"*

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

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**\*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 make this your church home.

**CHURCH JOYS AND CONCERNS:** Please continue praying for Susan Mousigian, Dr. Richard Marburger, George and Ann Krikorian, Jan Janigian, and Glenn Harrison.

**ACC** extends its grateful thanks to Chuck Sarkissian and Tony Janigian for cutting down and removing the fallen tree in the church parking lot.

**ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP** Eastern Region Fall Conference, with guest speaker. Lara Cholakian Khoury, will be held on Friday through Sunday, September 15-17, at the Radisson Hotel in Southfield, and here at A.C.C. To register and for more information visit [http://aeuna.org/aewf-er 2023](http://aeuna.org/aewf-er%202023). Please also register with Sheryl Marburger after the church service in the Social Hall.

**CHURCH RETREAT** We will be having a two day retreat, Friday and Saturday, August 25-26, at the Maryville Retreat Center, in Holly, MI. The guest speaker will be Pastor Richard Afsharian, from the Armenian Brethren Evangelical Church, in Pasadena, CA. The theme and topic will be, ‘Living with Eternal Perspective.”

**IS YOUR ANNIVERSARY OR BIRTHDAY** approaching? Why not share your celebration with the Church Family, by sponsoring the Fellowship Hour or Altar Flowers. Please sign your name on the Bulletin Board, call the Church Office, or email Souzanne at Office@accdetroit.org.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

There are many false teachings. Many fall into the trap of being deceived by them. There is only one absolute truth and that is the Word of God. We must all examine what we hear and only accept that which is in line with the truth of the teachings of the Bible.

**Here are some points of how to distinguish the truth from the lies:**

1. **“They (the Bereans) received the message with great eagerness and examined the scripture every day to see if what Paul said was true.”** No matter who is preaching or teaching the scripture, each of us is responsible to ensure we know God’s word thoroughly in order to ensure we only accept teachings that are in accordance with God's Word. This we must do prayerfully and diligently by devoting daily devotional time with the Lord in prayer and in studying the scriptures.
2. **“Many of them believed.”** The Bereans after examining the scriptures to ensure Paul was teaching God’s Word in a manner that is worthy to be accepted. We must learn to filter out everything that we hear that is contrary to God’s word. There are many false teachings that are misleading and can destroy our character in Christ. Our lives are too precious in Christ to be corrupted by the false teachings of this world.