***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.

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**11:00 a.m. April 9, 2023**

 **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#202 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”*

 *(vs. 1-2 English, vs. 3 see insert for Armenian, congregation & children sing)*

 **To God Be the Glory** *– Children Sing*

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

Dear Lord, we thank you that on this day we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you for overcoming sin and death on the death on cross and bringing new life to us all. We rejoice knowing that through the death and resurrection of Jesus we have the gift of eternal life. We also rejoice knowing that you will always be with us and never leave us. Help us share this great news with all people and proclaim it without fear that Christ is indeed risen! 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:** *Easter*

**PASTOR:** Christ is risen!

**PEOPLE:** **He is risen indeed!**

**PASTOR:** Lift up your hearts!

**PEOPLE: We will lift them up unto the Lord.**

**PASTOR:** We praise you, O Lord, for bringing from the dead our Jesus Christ, and using His death upon the cross to bring about our redemption.

**PEOPLE: Praise be to your holy name.**

**PASTOR:** We thank you that through his resurrection you have given us the faith to believe that every good which seems to be overcome by evil, and every love which seems to be buried in darkness and death, shall rise again to life immortal.

**PEOPLE: Armed with that faith, we pray for those whose lives are overshadowed by despair on this Easter Sunday.**

**PASTOR:** We pray for those who are battling life-threatening illnesses, that they may renew their hope through Christ’s resurrection.

**PEOPLE: We pray for those who are dragged down by the weight of despair, that they may renew their hope through Christ’s resurrection.**

**PASTOR:** May our celebration of Easter, renew our faith in the Risen Lord.

**UNISON: Blessed be the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *#7 “Lord I Lift Your Name on High”*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *Mark 16:1-16 (pp. 1584-1585)*

**ENGLISH SERMON*:* What Does The Empty Tomb Tell Us?**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#201“Low in the Grave He Lay”*

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

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *John 20:11-18 (p. 1686)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: The Inexpressible Joy of Mary Magdalene**

**\*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**

**BLESSED EASTER TO ALL!**

**“Kristos Haryav Ee Merelots. Orhnyal Eh Harootyunen Kristosee!”**

**“Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!”**

***“Qristos #ar;au I M;];loz )rfn;al H #aroujiunn Qristosi”***

**WE WELCOME TO OUR PULPIT** this morningour Minister Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian. He will be delivering the English Sermon**.**

**THE COFFEE HOUR** today is sponsored by Mr. Tony Janigian in honor of Chuck Sarkissian’s birthday.

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

**WENDESDAY BI-WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY** will be held April, 12th at 6:30p.m.

**WOMEN'S BI-WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP & BIBLE STUDY** will be held Saturday, April 15th at 11:00 a.m. in person and online via Zoom app.

**A.C.C. WILL BE HOSTING MONTHLY ARMENIAN LANGUAGE CLASS**, free of charge for ages 18 and up. First class will be held Saturday, April 15th, from 10-11am. Deadline to RSVP is today. You can sign-up with Hasmik after the Morning Church Service in the Social Hall.

**A BRIEF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on Sunday, April 23rd following the Morning Worship Service. The board of trustees will present a brief explanation on the Franklin medical building, and then we will conduct a vote amongst our members.

**108TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

Service in Honor of the Sanctified Martyrs of the Armenian Genocide under the auspices of the Armenian Churches of Greater Detroit will be held on Monday, April 24th, 2023 at 7:00p.m. at St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

When Jesus resurrected from the dead, it would have been thought that He would first appear to His beloved disciples, but to everyone’s amazement, he appeared to a woman, whom He had driven out seven demons from, Mary Magdalene. Why did Jesus do that, you would ask?

**Here are some points about Mary’s encounter with Jesus:**

1. **“Mary stood outside the tomb crying.”** Earlier in this chapter, in verse 1, we are told that it was Mary Magdalene who went to the tomb early Sunday, not the disciples. Proverbs 8:17 says this, “Those who seek me will find me.” Mary could not wait any longer because her longing for Jesus was great, which drove her to the tomb. Mary had experienced the love of Jesus, who healed her. She also cared about the needs of Jesus and His disciples throughout their journey. It seems as though Mary was receiving what we call “VIP” visitation by Jesus, who called her by her name, “Mary.” There was a special bond between Jesus and Mary; Jesus wants to have that same bond with every believer.

2**. “Go to my brothers and tell them.”** Jesus tells Mary to go to His disciples and tell them He has been resurrected. Notice that Jesus has intentionally decided not to appear to His disciples yet. Why? Maybe to test them and see if they would adhere to the report that Mary will bring to them? What is important is that Jesus calls His disciples His “brothers.” We too, who have come to believe in Jesus are called His brothers and sisters. This is a great honor to be heirs with Christ in His kingdom. It is an everlasting blessing that we can never take for granted. This should bring us the same great joy as it did to Mary Magdalene.