***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 13, 2023**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#165 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

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

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

Dear Lord, we thank you for your everlasting love that you have for us. We are forever grateful to you for your many blessings that you bestow on us every day. Help us to remain faithful to you when we are pressed hard for our faith. Help us fight the good fight of faith until the end. Help us not to give in to fear in the midst of hardships. Let your name and love be proclaimed through our lips to all those we encounter. 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:** *Christian Conduct*

**PASTOR:** I appeal to you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

**PEOPLE:** **Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

**PASTOR:** Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.

**PEOPLE: Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor.**

**PASTOR:** Never lag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** **Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints. Practice hospitality.**

**PASTOR:** Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice. Weep with those who weep.

**PEOPLE: Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited.**

**PASTOR:** Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought for what is noble, in the sight of all.

**PEOPLE: If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all.**

**PASTOR:** Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to God.

**PEOPLE:** **Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

**UNISON: May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *#9“Open the Eyes of My Heart”*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *Acts 20:17-21 (p. 1729)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: Finishing the Race in Faithfulness**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *Acts 20:32-35 (p.1730)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: It is More Blessed to Give than to Receive**

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

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\*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.

**THANK YOU** to all who baked for the Armenia Fest and raised $1,470. Thank you to Chuck Sarkissian, Tony Janigian, Nora Baylerian, April Tini, Jano Bouladian, Margarita Yeghiyan, Siroon Karapetoff, Ovsanna Dervartanian, Carole Basmadjian, Frances Garabedian, Michele Margosian, Maritsa Mandalyan, and Seta Sanchez.

**THANK YOU** to all who helped with VBS, including Cathy Brito, Jenny Mullen, Hasmik Arslanian, Ann Bayleran, Michele Margosian, Jacob Arslanian, Lena Bouladian, and Sheryl Marburger.

**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. Deadline to register is Thursday, August 24th.

**JOIN US** for a VBS presentation after the Morning Worship 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**

Paul, through time, had learned to accept the fact that his life was in danger, as long as he continued to proclaim the gospel. This, however, did not discourage or keep him from preaching the gospel. He foresaw the reward and benefits to those who will be saved, through his humble service.

**Here are some points about remaining faithful to the Lord:**

1**. “In everything I did, I showed you. We must help the weak.”** Paul had a heart for service. He cared deeply for those who were weak and needed guidance. He served them with humility. He left us an example to follow, to do the same. As Christians, we are called to serve and love one another, as the Lord loves us. Paul served even when things were really tough, and had to face persecution at times. We must learn to do the same.

2**. “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”** Paul was closely following the footsteps of Jesus to insure he lived out what he preached. As humans, it is in our sinful nature to receive as much as we can. However, the Christian faith teaches us to give, more than to receive. The world does not follow this philosophy but we are called to do so, because Jesus poured out his life for us. We ought to do the same for one another.