***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 20, 2023**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#327“I Would Be True”*

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

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

Dear Lord, you are the light of our lives. You are the one who shines in us and through us. You have revealed the light of your eternal true word that we abide by. We thank you that you have taken us out of darkness into the light of your knowledge. We now know that you alone are the only true light we are to follow. For your word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. You said, we are the light of the world. We pray that our testimony of your Son Jesus Christ would shine through us to a world that lives in the darkness of sin. 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:** *Psalm 27:1-14*

**PASTOR:** The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

**PEOPLE:** **When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.**

**PASTOR:** Though an army besieges me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.

**PEOPLE: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.**

**PASTOR:** For on the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

**PEOPLE:** **Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surrounded me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

**PASTOR:** Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.

**PEOPLE: My heart says of you, “Seek his face!” Your face, Lord, I will seek.**

**PASTOR:** Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me. O God, my Savior.

**PEOPLE: Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.**

**PASTOR:** Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

**PEOPLE:** **Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.**

**PASTOR:** I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

**UNISON: Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *#12“Step By Step”*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *Luke 11:33-36 (p. 1615)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: Having the Fullness of Christ’s Light**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *John 8:12, (p. 1662), Matthew 5:14-16 (p. 1501)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: Shining through the Light of Christ**

**\*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.

**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.”

**ACC** welcomes Pastor Richard Afsharian, and his wife Aida, from the Armenian Brethren Evangelical Church, in Pasadena, California. Pastor Richard will be our guest speaker for the English sermon next Sunday, August 27th. After the Morning Worship Service, Pastor Richard will be presenting ARC (Armenian Relief Corp) mission projects in the Social Hall.

**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.

**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**

When we speak of light, what comes to mind? Being able to see? Avoiding darkness? Without light, it would be hard to function well. God created light and our eyes, so that we can see and enjoy His creation. There is also a spiritual aspect of light.

**Here are some points about having the light of Christ:**

1. **“I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”** Have you ever tried to walk in total darkness? I have, a few times, and it was scary, and I did not know how to reach my destination. So many times we walk in spiritual darkness without knowing if what we are doing is in God’s will. This is because we become ignorant of God’s word. We lack the knowledge of God’s word that we need in order to know how to live our lives. This is why it is extremely critical that we read and study God’s word, prayerfully, on a daily basis, so that we have the light of the knowledge of the blueprint of our lives.
2. **“You are the light of the world.”** A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. After Jesus claims that He is the light of the world, he goes on to say that we are, as well. Of course this can only be true of us, if we are living and growing in our relationship with the Lord, on a daily basis. It is impossible to shine the light of the gospel of Jesus, without having been enlightened by His Spirit, about the truths found in His word. The more we invest time with Him in prayer, reading His word, and going to church, the more the light of Christ will shine through us in the world.