**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

**26210 W. 12 Mile Road ~ Southfield, MI 48034**

***Rev. Hagop Haroutunian ~Senior Pastor***

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

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

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

**11:00 a.m. January 21, 2024**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE/QUIET MEDITATION**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:** *#85 “O Lord My God”*

 *(vs. 1-2 in English, vs. 4 in Armenian)*

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

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you this morning as we come before your presence to praise and worship you. You alone deserve all the honor and glory. We pray, as your church, that you help us to always have you as our first love and above all and all things. May your church be a true testimony to its surroundings. We want to be the light and the salt of the earth; to proclaim the good news of Jesus not only with our words but also with our deeds. 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.*

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**RESPONSIVE READING:** *Psalm 63*

**PASTOR:** O God, you are my God. Earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**PEOPLE:** **I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.**

**PASTOR:** Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.

**PEOPLE: I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.**

**PASTOR:** My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods. With singing lips my mouth will praise you.

**PEOPLE: On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night.**

**PASTOR:** Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.

**PEOPLE:** **My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.**

**PASTOR:** They who seek my life will be destroyed; they will go down to the depths of the earth.

**PEOPLE:** **They will be given over to the sword and become food for jackals.**

**UNISON:**  **But the king will rejoice in God; all who swear by God’s name will praise him, while the mouths of liars will be silenced.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**INSTALLATION-BOARD MEMBERS**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *#36 “How Great Is Our God”*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE**: *Revelation 2:1-7 (p. 1914)*

**ENGLISH SERMON: The First Enduring Love**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE:** *Revelation 2:8-11 (p. 1914)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON: Poor Yet Very Rich**

**\*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 Armenia, Glenn Harrison, Jan Janigian, Susan Mousigian, and Dr. Richard Marburger.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS AND THE COFFEE HOUR** today are sponsored by the Arslanian Family, in loving memory of Marie Arslanian.

**INSTALLATION** for the newly elected ACC members of the Board of Trustees and Deacons will be held this morning during the Morning Worship Service.

**BIWEEKLY BIBLE STUDY** will be held on Thursday, January 25th, at 6:30p.m. in person and zoom. (Social time starts at 6:15p.m. to 6:30p.m.)

**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on Sunday, January 28th immediately following the Morning Worship Service. All board and organizations are requested to submit their reports.

**MONTHLY WOMEN’S** Breakfast/Fellowship and Bible study. Hasmik Arslanian will be leading the Bible Study, starting Saturday, February 3rd at 10:00a.m. "Waymaker: Finding the Way to the Life You've Always Dreamed of," by Ann Voskamp. Cost is $10; please sign your name on the Sign-up sheet in the Social Hall with Hasmik.

**MONTHLY MEN’S** Breakfast/Fellowship and Bible study will be held on Saturday, February 3rd at 10:00a.m. Please sign your name on the Sign-up sheet in the Social Hall with Hasmik.

**ACC** is looking for volunteers to set up or cleanup for Coffee Hour**.** If you are interested in helping, please sign up after the Morning Worship Service in the Social Hall.

**THE FOUR ARMENIAN CHURCHES OF GREATER DETROIT** along with Knights and Daughters of Vartan, with the participation of the metro Detroit Armenian Church Choirs, under the direction of Deacon Rubik Mailian, will be holding the Celebration and Commemoration of the Feast of St. Vartanank, on Thursday, February 8th, at 7:00p.m. At St. Vartan Armenian Catholic Church, 4875 W Maple Rd. Bloomfield Hills. Following the service, reception will be held in the Church Hall. Admission is free.

**SYNOPSIS OF THE ARMENIAN SERMON**

The church of Smyrna was viewed as a poor church, because it was afflicted and it was probably poor financially, but it had something that Jesus loved, it was their faithfulness.

**Here are some points about the church of Smyrna:**

1. **“I know your afflictions and your poverty-yet you are rich!”** These words from Jesus must have uplifted and encouraged the church of Smyrna that was being persecuted. It reassured them that Jesus knew everything that was happening in that church. In the same manner, we too, when we are persecuted, should always remember Jesus is right there with us.
2. **“Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer.”** Fear is usually our number one enemy. Jesus often told His followers not to be afraid of persecution and suffering. It is because we do not do it alone, he is right there with us to help, encourage, defend, protect, and strengthen us to fight the good fight to the end.