**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Hagop Haroutunian, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

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11:00 a.m. January 19, 2025

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**: “Come Now, Almighty King,”

#15, vs.1-2 English; vs.3 Armenian transliteration

Eecheer Ov Soorp Hokee Yév Hima

Dour Mézi Vugah-yoot-yoon

Teh- Dern Mez Guh Seeré, Mér Sirdn Artoon Deeré

Me Hérahnahr Mézméh, Hokee Seeroon.

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

Dear Lord, we come to you this morning to thank you for gathering us before your presence, to worship you. You have called us to be brave and courageous in this world, as we face hardship. We remember all of your servants in your Word, who fought so hard for the truth; we are encouraged by them to do the same. Help us conquer our fear and stand for your truth, by resisting the evil one. We want to make a difference in this world by the power of your Spirit. We give you all the glory and honor, who taught us to pray: *“Our Father…”*

**\* GLORIA PATRI**, #79

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 118:1-14

PASTOR: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.

**PEOPLE**: **Let Israel say: “His love endures forever.”**

PASTOR: Let the house of Aaron say: “His love endures forever.”

**PEOPLE**: **In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and He answered by setting me free.**

PASTOR: The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?

**PEOPLE**: **The Lord is with me; He is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies.**

PASTOR: It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

**PEOPLE**: **It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.**

PASTOR: All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord, I cut them off.

**PEOPLE: They surrounded me on every side, but in the name of the Lord, I cut them off.**

PASTOR: They swarmed around me like bees, but they died out as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the Lord I cut them off.

**PEOPLE: I was pushed back and about to fall, but the Lord helped me.**

**UNISON: The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**PRAYER**

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL SONG**: “Forever,” #2

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING**: Esther 4:1-17 (p.780-781)

**ENGLISH SERMON**: “Making a Difference in This World”

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING**: Acts 5:27-32 (p.1699)

**ARMENIAN SERMON**: “Obeying God Rather Than Human Authority”

**\* HAYR MER**: #275

**\* BENEDICTION**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**: “Park Kez Der, Asdvadz Mer”

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**\* Please stand if you are able**

**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 to make this your church home.

**CHURCH JOYS AND CONCERNS**: Please continue prayers for Armenia, Jan Janigian, Susan Mousigian, Dr. Richard Marburger, Alice Kakousian, Susan Harrison and family, California Fires Disaster.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Jessica and Nicholar, and to Tony Janigian, for the birth of Lakelyn Lorane Janigian, born January 13th!!

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WEEKLY PRAYER**: Mondays at 6:30pm, on Zoom.

**WEEKLY THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY:** 6:30pm, in person and zoom.

**AMAA CALIFORNIA FIRES DISASTER ASSISTANCE:** If you would like to donate to assist the families affected by the Los Angeles fires, you may do so by going to AMAA.org.

**ACC MEMBERS CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**: Next Sunday, January 26th, after the Church Service at 12:30pm. All members of ACC are requested to be present for the purpose of the presentation of the reports of the Senior Pastor, the Church Council by the Clerk, Boards of Deacons, Trustees by their respective Chairmen, the actual income and expenditures by the Treasurer, and the Sunday School by the Superintendent.

**SPONSOR COFFEE HOUR OR ALTAR FLOWERS:** Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the foyer. Thank you.

**ARMENIAN SYNOPSIS**

The apostles faced much opposition from the Jewish people, because they were fearless to speak about Christ. They stood their ground when they were threatened by the Jewish Council, the Sanhedrin, but nothing shook them from their ground.

**Here are some points about standing for the truth:**

1. **“*Peter and the other apostles replied: ‘We must obey God rather than human beings!’*”** The Jewish Court wanted to stop the apostles from preaching about Jesus; but they were very determined to continue, even if it meant beatings or imprisonment. As we remember Martin Luther King, Jr. this week, we see this same boldness, as he stood for the truth and fought for the freedom of all those who were being mistreated. We, too, are called to fight the good fight of faith no matter what the outcome.
2. **“*We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him*.”** Jesus reiterated the importance of aiming at the goal He came to accomplish, which was to die for our sins. We too, must be bold and courageous to fulfill God’s purpose and goal in our lives, no matter what life circumstances may bring.