**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

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

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

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

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**

**6:30 p.m. April 17, 2025**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**CHOIR MEDITATIONS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN:** *#176 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

**\*RESPONSIVE LITANY**

**PASTOR:** Almighty God, help us to be aware of those events that caused Jesus to be taken to the cross. As we become mindful of those who confronted Him with betrayal, denial, rejection, injustice, torture, ridicule and mockery, we realize that these same traits may be found in our lives.

**PEOPLE: Help us to re-examine our inner selves in this hour, as we reflect upon the lives of those who failed our Savior.**

**PASTOR:** If we have crucified him anew, grant us forgiveness and cleanse our lives of sin.

**PEOPLE:** **Uplift us, that we might see beyond the shadows of the Cross, and find the spirit of Him who came as the light of the world.**

**\*INVOCATION AND HAYR MER**

Father in Heaven, we would express our gratitude to You for revealing the greatness of Your salvation for man, through the Christ and His death on Calvary. May the Cross become for us a symbol of Your love and concern for man. Sustain us as we would attempt to carry our own cross through life, and challenge us that we might be faithful to You to the end, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who taught us to pray: *“Our Father, Who art in Heaven…”*

**\*HAYR MER #275**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER**

**PASTOR:** We thank you, O Lord our God, that you loved us so much that you gave your Son as a ransom for our salvation.

**PEOPLE:** **We thank you, O Lord, that Jesus Christ is the manifestation of your infinite love for us.**

**PASTOR:** On this Maundy Thursday, we remember his new mandate, the new commandment, “that we love one another.”

**PEOPLE:** **We remember his humility and service in washing the feet of his disciples on the night of his betrayal.**

**PASTOR:** We remember Jesus’ desire to eat the Passover meal with his disciples before he went to the Cross.

**PEOPLE:** **Put in our hearts the desire to be in communion with him always.**

**PASTOR:** As we commemorate his Last Supper, we remember how He took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

**PEOPLE:** **Grant that coming to him as “the Bread of Life,” we may never hunger.**

**PASTOR:** We also remember his words, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

**PEOPLE:** **Grant that believing in him, we may never thirst.**

**UNISON: Help us, O Lord, to remember that as often as we partake of the bread and drink of the cup of the new covenant, we proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes. Amen.**

**SOLO***: Dan Haroutunian*

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING**: *Luke 22:24-30 (p.1637)*

*Esther Lyons*

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING**: *John 13:1-9 (p. 1673)*

*Ovsanna Dervartanian*

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**MESSAGE:** “Brief Meditations on Maundy Thursday”

**\*HYMN:** *#191 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”*

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

1. The Giving of the Bread
2. The Giving of the Cup

(Ours is an open Communion. All those who believe in the Lord Jesus, and accept Him as Lord and Savior, are cordially invited to share this Sacrament with us. In accordance with our custom, we suggest that as an act of Christian community, each communicant hold the elements [first, the bread; then, the cup] until all have been served. Then, with the Minister, partake together, so that none may be first and none last at the Table of the Lord.)

**\*HYMN:** *#398 “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

**\*Congregation is requested to stand. \*\*\* Latecomers may be seated.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GRATEFUL THANKS** to the participants in this evening’s service. We express our heartfelt gratitude to our Choir Director/Organist, Susan Harrison; to all the members of the choir, as well as to the readers of the scriptures.

**FOLLOWING THIS EVENING’S SERVICE:** there will be a fellowship hour in the Social Hall, during which time a reflective supper will be held.

**SUNDAY IS EASTER:** and we invite all our members and friends to Worship with us!

**EASTER BRAKFAST:** The annual Easter Breakfast will be held this Sunday, from 9:00am to 10:30am.

**A FRIENDLY REMINDER:** If you have not made your Easter gifts for Missions, you can do so as soon as possible.

**MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON:** will be on Sunday, May 11th, sponsored by the Church Board of Trustees. Please join us in morning worship, to pay tribute to our mothers. Following the morning worship service, at 12:30pm, join us for a complimentary luncheon. Please sign your name on the sign-up sheet, in the Social Hall – and mark the date.

***“May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,***

***through which the world has been crucified to me,***

***and I to the world”***

**Galatians 6:14**

**+**