**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

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11:00 a.m. August 10 2025

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN** - #414 *“When Peace, Like a River”*

vs.1-2 English; vs.3 Armenian transliteration:

Irn em yes An im Ter yev Arkan,

Kzgam Ir parke andzis mech nerkah,

Surb hreshtakner galov yerknken,

Shnorhats siro yerg ke mrmnjen

Piti patmem minch shunches verchin,

Oo yergem sern anhun im Prktchin,

Piti patmem minch shunches verchin,

Oo yergem sern anhun im Prktchin

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

 God, our Father, on this day we come together to remember those who gave their lives for our country, and in our own way to say, thank you. May this time of prayer renew our gratitude and love for these people who have fought the good fight and entered into your kingdom. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

*“Our Father, Who art in heaven…”*

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

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**A LITANY FOR THE VETERANS:**

**PASTOR:** O Lord, our God, on this day we come together to praise your holy name and to remember those who have served, and presently serve, our country.

**PEOPLE: We praise you, O God, for their patriotism and dedication.**

**PASTOR:** We lift our hearts in gratitude for all who have lived valiantly, and for all who have died bravely for truth, liberty, and righteousness.

**PEOPLE: We praise you, O Lord, for those who served their country in her hour of need, and especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice.**

**PASTOR:** Help us, O God, to prize highly and to guard carefully, the gifts which through loyalty and devotion have been passed on to us.

**PEOPLE: Grant to us the wisdom and grace that, having them always in remembrance, we may emulate their faithfulness, and with them inherit the Promised Land.**

**PASTOR:** Confirm our faith in your promises of eternal life; that “if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built with human hands.”

**PEOPLE: We thank you, O God, that Jesus Christ our Lord is the resurrection and the life; that those who believe in him will live, even though they die; and whoever believes in him will never die.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS**

**ANTHEM**

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING:** *Mark 10:35-42 (p.1571-1572)*

**ENGLISH SERMON:** ***The True Meaning of Greatness***

**\*HYMN** #434 *“When All My Labors and Trials Are O’er” (vs.1,3)*

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING:** *Matthew 10:28-31 (p.1511-1512)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON:** ***Overcoming Our Fears***

**\*HAYR MER #275**

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

**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 to make this your church home.

**COFFEE HOUR BY HOVSEP AND KARINE KOUNDAKJIAN:** This morning’s coffee hour is in celebration of Karine’s and Garo’s birthday, and to celebrate Hovsep and Karine’s 44th wedding anniversary!

**WE ARE ALL INVITED TO MANOOGIAN MANOR:** (15775 Middlebelt Road, Livonia) to enjoy a complementary Sunday picnic, to honor our veterans. We will leave at 1:00 p.m.

**ARMENIA FESTIVAL FOR ARTSAKH:** We will have a booth at Armenia Fest 17 on Saturday, August 23rd, and will be selling baked goods. If you would like to bake something for this event, please see Ann Zartarian after Church. You can make a financial donation. Please make your check payable to: **ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**, and in the memo write: **ARMENIA FEST**. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Synopsis of the Armenian Sermon**

 Fear of one kind or another haunts us and casts a shadow over our happiness. They draw our energies, destroy our repose, disturb our days, and haunt our nights.

 There are many kinds of demoralizing fear in personal life that create unhappiness, insecurity, emotional disturbance and worry.

1. There is fear of failure of one’s own inadequacy and inferiority. The fear of not succeeding makes for worry, heart strain, and mental difficulties.
2. The fear of old age can cause a feeling of insecurity, aloneness, uselessness, the fear of being a burden on others, etc.
3. The fear of loneliness.

How, then, can we think successful living, in meeting this dragon of fear?

1. To face them. The longer they are put off, the larger they become – like a snowball falling downhill. We need to control them, so that they cease to be a dominant and destructive force in our lives.
2. To develop a sound faith in God, faith is the only effective cure to face. For Jesus, faith was essentially trust in God. Our lives are in the loving hands of a loving God. God is greater than all fears. We must develop a strong faith in God, and anchor ourselves seriously against the storms of life we face.

 St. Paul knew the problem of fear when he wrote to the Church in Rome, “You did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of Sonship.” (Romans 8:15)

 After all, “If God is for us, who can be against us.”