**Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit**

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Minister Emeritus

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11:00 a.m. August 31, 2025

**LABOR SUNDAY**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ORGAN PRELUDE, QUIET MEDITATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CHOIR INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN** - #23 *“When Morning Gilds the Skies”*

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

Voch Chee Hokneer Léh-zoos Yérkél Soorp Aleloos

Park Hissoosi Anvahn Gérkém

Ays Yérk Tsundz-mahn Khantov muh Ansahman

Park Hissoosi Anvahn.

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

 Our Heavenly Father, we are grateful for your goodness. Help us to see our work as a privilege and not as a burden. Guide us in using our creative abilities for the good of human beings, expressing our love through our work, 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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**LITANY ON LABOR DAY:**

**PASTOR:** O God, the Great Creator and Master Workman of the entire universe, we thank You that You revealed Yourself to us in Jesus, the carpenter, whose working hands bear testimony to the dignity of work.

**PEOPLE: Bless all who serve us, and who have dedicated their lives to the ministry of others.**

**PASTOR:** Bless all the workers, who labor so patiently with so little appreciation.

**PEOPLE: Bless all who serve the public, who have to accept criticism, complaint, bad manners, and selfishness at the hands of thoughtless people.**

**PASTOR:** Help the labor movement of our day, to be worthy of its heritage.

**PEOPLE: Guard employers from lust for personal power and exploitation, and guide them in the service of the common good.**

**PASTOR:** Grant all classes of people a larger comprehension for the aspirations of labor.

**PEOPLE: Grant to laborers the wisdom to seek a world of peace, with justice and liberty for all.**

**PASTOR:** Bless every humble worker who, through conscientious performance of labor, preaches eloquent sermons without words.

**UNISON: Teach us all, O Lord, the divine dignity of labor, whatever sort it be, as only from You and for You, to the well-being of Your creatures and to the glory of Your Holy name. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**NOTICES AND CONCERNS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING WITH CHOIR**

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANTHEM**

**ENGLISH SCRIPTURE READING:** *I Corinthians 3:10-13 (p.1774)*

**ENGLISH SERMON:** ***Work is God’s Blessing***

**\*HYMN** #272 *“Lord, Speak to Me” (vs.1,4)*

**ARMENIAN SCRIPTURE READING:** *Hebrews 11:8-12 (p.1875)*

**ARMENIAN SERMON:** ***Abraham, the Man of Faith***

**\*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.

**THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS:** Will be held on Sunday, September 7th at 1:00 p.m., in the Conference Room. Please note the TIME CHANGE.

**NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2025:** is our **HOMECOMING SUNDAY**. Please join us for fellowship and a light lunch, following the worship service.

**Synopsis of the Armenian Sermon**

 **As a man of faith, Abraham looked at his life in terms of mission**. As a young man, he left his native home of the Chaldeans and lived in a place called Haran. One thing which kept him going in that strange land was a sense of mission, which gave him purpose and power.

 **As a man of faith, Abraham was not always a person of perfect character**. He lied to Pharaoh of Egypt, telling that Sarai (his wife) was his sister. He was guilty of deception, to save his own skin. Although he had his failures, he wanted to do better and meant to be better.

 **As a man of faith, Abraham had courage to face the dark facts of life**. He took his son to Mount Mariah, to offer him as a burnt offering. God was testing his faith. When Abraham met the test of obedience, the life of his son Isaac was spared.

 Faith is the belief that something is true; the belief that there is a God.

 Faith is an attitude of trust in the Person believed.

 Faith is the act of personal commitment to the Person trusted.

 Furthermore, faith is doing the best things in the worst times.