

*Ecumenical Service of Praise and Thanksgiving*

*on Thursday, the eighth of November  
nineteen hundred and seventy-three  
at Eight o'clock in the evening*

*on the occasion of the  
Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Founding of the  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America*

**Sponsored by**

*The Armenian Churches of Eastern Massachusetts*

*Holy Trinity Church of Greater Boston*  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

*St. Gregory the Illuminator Church*  
Haverhill, Massachusetts

*Holy Cross Church*  
Lawrence, Massachusetts

*Sts. Vartanantz Church*  
Lowell, Massachusetts

*St. James Church*  
Watertown, Massachusetts



*Holy Trinity Church of Greater Boston  
145 Brattle Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts*

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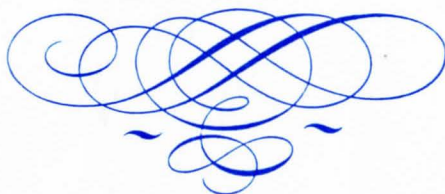
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## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

*Processional Hymn*

*"Hrashapar"*

*(Choir)*

Wonderously glorious and ever-beneficent God, who by thy foreknowledge did ordain the salvation of the Armenian people and did give us an Enlightener from the sinful Parthian family, through whose intercession, O Saviour, save us now and at thine awesome coming. Heavenly King, preserve thy church unshaken and keep the worshippers of thy name in peace.

*Psalms 122*

*Clergy and Congregation in Response*

-I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

=Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

-Jerusalem built as a city whose inhabitants are bound firmly together,

=To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

-There thrones for judgement were set, the thrones of the house of David.

=Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and the prosperity of those who love the Lord.

-Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.

=For my brethren and companions' sake I will say "Peace be within you!" For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

-Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

=Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*Bidding*

Through the holy Church let us beseech the Lord that through her may he deliver us from sin and may save us by the grace of his mercy.

Almighty Lord Our God, save and have mercy.

*The Prayer in the Temple*

In the midst of this temple and before these holy symbols accepted by God and glorified, and before this holy place, we humble ourselves and bow down in fear. We glorify thine holy, wondrous and triumphant dominion and unto thee with the Father and with the Holy Spirit we offer blessing and glory, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*Psalms 100*

*Clergy and Congregation in Response*

-Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness

=Come into his presence with joy, know that he is the Lord Our God.

-It is he that has made us and not we ourselves; we are his people,  
and the sheep of his pasture.

=Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with  
praise.

-Give thanks unto the lord; and bless his name.

=For the Lord is good, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth en-  
dures from generation to generation.

-Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

=Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*Hymn*

*"Ourakh Ler"*

*(Choir)*

Rejoice, O Holy Church, for Christ the King of heaven today has  
crowned thee with his cross and has embellished thy limbs with  
his wonderful glory.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, for earth has become heaven  
today with thy renewal and the heavenly King has been pleased to  
dwell in thee.

*Bidding*

Again in peace let us beseech the Lord.

Let us bless the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath made  
us worthy to stand in this place of praise and to sing spiritual  
songs.

Almighty Lord our God, save and have mercy.

*The Prayer in the Sanctuary*

In this dwelling of holiness and in this place of praise, in this  
habitation of angels and the house of expiation of men, before  
these symbols accepted by God and glorified, and before this sanc-  
tuary, we humble ourselves and bow down in fear. We bless and  
glorify thine holy, wondrous and triumphant dominion and, together  
with the heavenly hosts, we offer blessing and glory unto thee  
with the Father, and with the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and  
unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*Bidding*

Bless, Lord

*The Blessing*

Blessed be the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the  
Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and unto the ages  
of ages. Amen.

*The Introit*

Grant peace to thy holy church, peace and steadfastness against  
the assaults of the enemy and establish the Catholic Church in  
one faith.

We confess Thee, Lord and God. Save us.

*Bidding*

Proschoume (Be attentive)

*Hymn*

*The Trisagion*

(Choir)

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and Immortal,  
Who was crucified for us,  
Have mercy upon us. (Thrice)

*The Great Litany*

Again in peace, let us beseech the Lord.

(Response) - Lord have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world and for the stability of the  
Holy Church, let us beseech the Lord. - Lord have mercy.

For all holy and orthodox bishops, let us beseech the Lord.

- Lord have mercy.

For the life of our Patriarch, Lord Vasken, Catholicos of All  
Armenians, and for the salvation of his soul, let us beseech the  
Lord.

- Lord have mercy.

For theologians, priests, deacons, clerics and the whole covenant  
of the children of the church, let us beseech the Lord.

- Lord have mercy.

For the President and Government and people of these United States  
of America, let us beseech the Lord.

- Lord have mercy.

For the Armenian people in their homeland and throughout the world,  
let us beseech the Lord.

- Lord have mercy.

For the souls of them that are at rest and have fallen asleep in  
Christ in the true and right faith, let us beseech the Lord.

Remember, Lord, and have mercy.

That the Lord God may be pleased to deliver us from evil visible  
and invisible let us beseech the Lord, and say with one accord.

- Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy.

*The Prayer with Open Arms*

O Lord, Our God, accept the supplications of us thy servants, made  
with open arms, and be merciful unto us according to thy great  
Mercy. Send down thy compassion upon us and upon all these thy  
people, that await for the abundant mercy which comes from thee.  
For thou, being God, art merciful and lover of man and unto thee  
is fitting glory, dominion and honour, now and ever and unto the  
ages of ages. Amen.

*The First Lesson*

Isaiah 2:1-5

*The Second Lesson*

I Peter 2:1-10

*The Alleluia*

(Psalm 84:1-2)

Alleluia, Alleluia

How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul longs, yea, even faints for thy courts.

*Bidding*

Alleluia. Orthi. (Stand straight)

*The Greeting and Preface to the Gospel*

+Peace unto All.

(Response) - And with thy spirit.

Listen in awe

To the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John

(Response) - Glory to thee, O Lord our God

Proschumen (Be attentive)

(Response) - God speaks

*The Gospel*

John 17:6-19

*Response to the Gospel*

(Choir)

Glory to thee, O Lord our God

*The Nicene Creed*

(Choir)

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of God the Father, only-begotten, that is of the substance of the Father.

God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten and not made; of the self-same nature of the Father, by whom all things came into being in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible;

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate, was made man, was born perfectly of the holy virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit;

By whom he took body, soul and mind and everything that is in man, truly and not in semblance.

He suffered and was crucified and was buried and rose again on the third day and ascended into heaven with the same body and sat at the right hand of the Father.

He is to come with the same body and with the glory of the Father to judge the living and the dead; of whose kingdom there is no end.

We believe also in the Holy Spirit, the uncreate and the perfect; who spake in the law and in the prophets and in the Gospels;

Who came down upon the Jordan, preached in the apostles and dwelt in the saints.

We believe also in only one catholic and apostolic [holy] Church; In one baptism with repentance for the remission and forgiveness of sins;

In the resurrection of the dead; in the everlasting judgment of souls and bodies, in the kingdom of heaven and in the life eternal.

*The Litany after the Lessons*

Again in peace, let us beseech the Lord.

(Response) - Lord have mercy

That we may pass this hour of praise and thanksgiving and our days to come in peace and in faith, let us ask of the Lord.

- Grant, O Lord

The angel of peace to guard us, let us ask of the Lord.

- Grant, O Lord

The forgiveness and remission of our transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

- Grant, O Lord

The great and mighty power of the Holy Cross to help us, let us ask of the Lord.

- Grant, O Lord

Again with one accord for our true and holy Faith, let us beseech the Lord.

- Lord have mercy

Let us commit ourselves and one another to the Lord, God Almighty.

- Let us, O Lord, be committed  
unto thee

Have mercy upon us, O Lord our God, according to thy great mercy. Let us all say with one accord.

- Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.  
Lord have mercy.

*The Prayers after the Lessons*

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who art great in mercy and abounding in the gifts of thy beneficence, who of thine own will did endure the sufferings of the cross and of death because of our sins and did abundantly bestow the gifts of thine Holy Spirit on the blessed apostles, make us also, O Lord, we beseech thee, sharers in thy divine gifts, in the forgiveness of sins and in the reception of the Holy Spirit, that we may be made worthy to give thee thanks and to glorify thee with the Father and with the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

+Peace unto all.

Let us bow down to God.

With thy peace, O Christ Our Saviour, which passes all understanding and speech, defend us and keep us unafraid of all evil; make us equal to thy true worshippers, who worship thee in spirit and truth; for unto the most Holy Trinity is fitting glory, dominion and honor, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*Reading of the Encyclical of His Holiness,  
Vasken I, Supreme Patriarch of All Armenians*



and most Blessed Catholicos of Holy Etchmiadzin,  
on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the erection of the  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America.

*Hymn*

"Etchmiadzin"

(Choir)

-The Only-Begotten descended from the Father, and the light of  
glory was with him; voices resounded in the depths of Hades.  
-The Patriarch Gregory saw the great light, and joyfully told of  
it to the believing King  
-"Come, let us build the sanctuary of light, for therein shone  
forth light unto us in the land of Armenia"

*Intercession for the Church*

Through the intercession of our father in faith, Saint Gregory  
the Enlightener, and of all the saints, may the Lord God give  
peace to the world.

(Response) - Amen

May the great see of Holy Etchmiadzin,  
Founded by God and invincible, remain immovable and unshaken in  
faith. - Amen

May all orthodox churches remain firm  
- Amen

May our Patriarch, Lord Vasken,  
most blessed Catholicos of All Armenians  
be kept in secure peace for many years  
- Amen

And may love and unity be granted unto us, all thy people.  
- Amen

*Prayer of Thanksgiving for Holy Etchmiadzin*

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the prayers and inter-  
cession of thy long-suffering witness and our father Saint Gregory  
the Enlightener, with great glory and with thy mighty celestial  
host descended from heaven upon the plain of Ararat to visit thy  
small flock, the Armenian Nation, and to show forth the founda-  
tion of thy love and great mercy, who struck the depths of the  
abyss and drove out the companies of hell with a golden hammer,  
where thou did fashion in the form of light and did wonderously  
erect our Mother See, Holy Etchmiadzin, and make her to be a  
mother, instructor and a guide unto perfection of all the churches  
of the Armenian nation, keep her now immaculate, firm and untar-  
nished until the end of time to be a bright adornment for our  
churches and their people, wherein thy all-holy name is ever glo-  
rified unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*The Solemn Blessing*

Amen. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia (Sung by the Choir)

Blessed and guarded and kept under divine care be the Patriarchate

of Armenians and the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, by this sign of the Holy Cross and the Holy Gospel and the grace of this day. In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. (Thrice)

Blessing and glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*The Bidding of the Cross*

By the Holy Cross let us beseech the Lord, that he may thereby deliver us from sin and may save us by the grace of his mercy. Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy.

*The Prayer of the Cross*

O guardian and hope of thy faithful people, O Christ our God, guard and keep the fullness of thy Church under the shadow of thine holy and precious Cross in peace. Deliver us from evil visible and invisible. Make us worthy to give thanks to thee and to glorify thee with the Father and with the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*The Sermon*

*The Hymn for the Repose of Souls*

(Choir)

O thou God the Word that art, together with the Father, the creator of beings out of nothing; grant forgiveness to thy servants that are asleep, when thou comest to judge them that thou didst create with spotless hands.

*The Alleluia for the Repose of Souls (Psalm 130:1-2)*

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord!

Lord, hear my voice.

Let thy ears be attentive  
to the voice of my supplications.

*Bidding*

Alleluia. Orthi. (Stand Straight)

*The Greeting and Preface to the Requiem Gospel*

+Peace unto All.

(Response) - And with thy spirit

Listen in Awe

To the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to

(Response) - Glory to thee, O Lord our God

Proschumen (Be Attentive)

(Response) - God speaks

*The Requiem Gospel*

Mark 4:26-34

*The Requiem Anthems*

1. We, priests and people, entreat thee, O Lord good and merciful  
With them that are asleep in faith, receive us in the same hope  
Into the heavenly city, Jerusalem, in which the just are assembled,  
To sing and glorify always the three persons of the Trinity.
2. In the supernal Jerusalem in the dwellings of the angels,  
Where Enoch and Elijah live in old age in dove-like form,  
Being worthily glorified in the garden of Eden,  
Merciful Lord, have mercy on the souls of those of us that  
are asleep.

*Ascription*

To the souls of them that are at rest, O Christ God, grant repose  
and mercy, and to us, sinners, vouchsafe forgiveness of our trans-  
gressions.

*The Bidding for the Repose of Souls*

Again in peace let us beseech the Lord.

For the souls of them that are at rest, let us beseech Christ our  
Saviour, that he may reckon them with the just and may save us by  
the grace of his mercy.

Almighty Lord our God, save us and have mercy.

*The Prayer for the Repose of Souls*

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

O Christ, the Son of God, forbearing and compassionate, have pity,  
in thy love as our creator, upon the souls of thy servants that  
are at rest, especially

The Founder of the Diocese of the Armenian Church  
of America, your servant, Mkrtich of Blessed Memory;  
The Diocesan Primates of Blessed Memory - Hovsep,  
Yeznig, Arsen, Tirayr, Ghevont, Garegin and Mampre;  
The clergy and all the faithful of this diocese,

For whom we offer these prayers.

Remember them in the great day of the coming of thy kingdom. Make  
them worthy of mercy, of expiation and the forgiveness of sins.  
Number them and glorify them with the company of thy saints at  
thy right hand. For thou art the Lord and Creator of all, judge  
of the living and of the dead. And to thee is fitting glory,  
dominion and honor, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Blessed be our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer*

*(Choir)*

*The Doxology*

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

*The Dismissal*

Be you blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit

Depart in peace and the Lord be with you all. Amen



