

VESPERS SUNG ON SATURDAY 24th APRIL 2021

✠ “LORD I CALL...”

Tone 6

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.
Hear me, O Lord.
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon Thee.//
Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise
in Thy sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice.//
Hear me, O Lord.

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!

Tone 6

The grace of the Holy Spirit
today has assembled us.
Taking up Thy Cross we sing:
“Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!//
Hosanna in the highest!”

The righteous await me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Repeat: The grace of the Holy Spirit ...

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Today the Word of God the Father,
the Co-eternal Son,
Whose throne is heaven and Whose footstool is earth,
humbles Himself and comes from Bethany,
riding on a dumb beast, the foal of an ass.
The children of the Hebrews hold branches in their hands.
They praise Him crying out:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes, the King of Israel!”

[Music on website]

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Repeat: Today the Word of God the Father ...

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquity, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

O new Israel, church of the Gentiles,
assemble today and sing with the Prophet Zechariah:
“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout for joy, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, thy King is coming to thee!
He is meek, bearing salvation!
He rides on the colt of an ass!”
Celebrate with the children, holding palms in thy hands:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes, the King of Israel!”

For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy Word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Repeat: O new Israel, church of the Gentiles ... “

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

By Thy command, O loving Lord,
Thou didst raise Lazarus Thy friend from death.
His flesh had been given over to corruption,
and he was in the power of death four days.
By this, Thou didst foretell Thy holy Resurrection for us.
Today, Thou dost mount an untamed colt as Thy chariot,
foretelling the conversion of the Gentiles.
Thy beloved Israel offers Thee a hymn of praise
from the mouths of innocent children,
as they see Thee enter the Holy City, O Christ,//
six days before the Feast of Passover.

*For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption,
and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Repeat: By Thy command, O loving Lord ...

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Six days before the Feast of Passover

Jesus entered Bethany.

His disciples asked Him:

“Where should we prepare for Thee to eat the Passover?”

He answered: “When you have entered the city,

a man carrying a jar of water will meet you.

Follow him into the house which he enters,

and tell the master of the house:

“The Teacher says to thee://

Here I shall eat the Passover with My disciples.”

For His mercy is confirmed on us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Repeat: Six days before the Feast of Passover ...

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 6

The grace of the Holy Spirit

today has assembled us.

Taking up Thy Cross we sing:

“Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!//

Hosanna in the highest!”

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6

The grace of the Holy Spirit

today has assembled us.

Taking up Thy Cross we sing:

“Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!//

Hosanna in the highest!”

✠ READINGS

The reading from the Book of Genesis [Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12]

Now Jacob called his sons and said, “Gather together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in the last days: Gather together and hear, you sons

of Jacob, and listen to Israel your father. Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons shall bow down before you. Judah is a lion’s cub; from being a shoot, my son, you have grown up. He bows down, and slept as a lion and a cub; and who shall rouse him? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from his loins, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the expectation of the nations. Binding his colt to a vine, and his ass’s colt to its branch, he will wash his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes. His eyes are gladdened from the wine, and his teeth are whiter than milk.”

The reading from the Prophecy of Zephaniah [Zephaniah 3:14-19]

Thus says the Lord: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Cry aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Be glad and rejoice with your whole heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away your iniquities and ransomed you from your enemies. The Lord, the King of Israel, is in your midst; you will no longer see any evil. At that time the Lord shall say to Jerusalem, “O Zion, be of good courage; do not let your hands grow slack. The Lord your God is with you. The Mighty One shall save. He shall bring gladness upon you and will renew you with His love. He will delight over you with joy as in a day of feasting. I shall gather together your broken ones. Alas! who has taken up a reproach against her? Behold, at that time I will act among you for your sake,” says the Lord. “I will save the oppressed and welcome those being rejected. I will make them a praise and renowned throughout the whole earth.”

The reading from the Prophecy of Zechariah [Zechariah 9:9-15]

Thus says the Lord: “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Proclaim it aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King comes to you; He is righteous and saving; He is gentle and mounted upon an ass, even a young foal. He will utterly destroy the chariots out of Ephraim and the horse out of Jerusalem. The bow of war shall be utterly destroyed, and there shall be abundance and peace among the nations. He shall rule over the waters as far as the sea and over the rivers to the ends of the earth. And by the blood of your covenant, you freed your prisoners from the pit having no water. you prisoners from the congregation, you shall live in the fortress, and for one day of your exile, I will repay to you double. For I have bent you, O Judah, for Myself as a bow; I have filled Ephraim. And I will arouse your sons, O Zion, against the sons of the

Greek, and I will handle you as the sword of a warrior.” And the Lord will be over them, and He shall go forth like a lightning bolt. The Lord Almighty shall sound with the trumpet and shall go forth with the tumult of His threat. The Lord Almighty will shield them.

✠ APOSTICHA

Tone 8

Rejoice and be glad, O City of Zion!
Exult and be joyful, O Church of God!
Thy King is coming in righteousness.
He rides on a colt, the foal of an ass.
The children sing His praises:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed art Thou, O greatly merciful One! Have mercy on us!”

℟. Out of the mouths of babes and infants Thou hast fashioned perfect praise!

Today the Saviour comes to Jerusalem,
fulfilling the Scriptures.
He is greeted with palms and a carpet of clothes.
All know it is He:
the Lord, Whom the Cherubim praise.
Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed art Thou, O greatly merciful One! Have mercy on us!

℟. O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is Thy Name in all the earth!

O gracious Lord, Who dost ride upon the Cherubim,
and art praised by the Seraphim,
now Thou dost ride like David on the foal of an ass.
The children sing hymns worthy of God,
while the priests and scribes blaspheme against Thee.
By riding an untamed colt, Thou hast prefigured the salvation of the
Gentiles,
those wild beasts, who will be brought from unbelief to faith.
Glory to Thee, O merciful Christ,//
our King and the Lover of man!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 6

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today has assembled us.
Taking up Thy Cross we sing:
“Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!//
Hosanna in the highest!”

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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today has assembled us.
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Hosanna in the highest!”

✠ TROPARIA

Troparion of Lazarus Saturday in Tone 1 [Music on website]

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion,
Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Troparion of Palm Sunday in Tone 4 [Music on website]

When we were buried with Thee in baptism, O Christ God,
we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy Resurrection.
Now we praise Thee and sing:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!”