

Vespers

Lord, I Have Cried, tone 6

Today the grace of the Spirit
hath gathered us together,
and we all take up Thy Cross and say:
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest. (*twice*)

Today the Word and coeternal Son of God the Father,
whose throne is the heaven and whose footstool is the earth,
humbleth Himself and cometh to Bethany,
seated on a dumb beast, on a foal.
Then the children of the Hebrews, holding branches in their hands,
praise Him saying: "Hosanna in the highest:
blessed is He that cometh, the King of Israel." (*twice*)

Let us also come today, all the new Israel,
the Church of the Gentiles,
and let us cry with the Prophet Zechariah:
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion;
shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem;
for behold, thy King cometh unto thee:
He is meek and bringeth salvation,
and He rideth upon the colt of an ass,
the foal of a beast of burden.
Keep the feast with the children,
and holding branches in your hands sing His praises:
"Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He that cometh, the King of Israel." (*twice*)

Prefiguring for us Thy holy Resurrection,
O loving Lord, by Thy command
Thou hast raised up from death Lazarus Thy friend,
who was without the breath of life;
and after four days in the tomb he had begun to stink.
Then, O Savior, mounted on a foal, and as though riding in a chariot,
Thou hast given a sign unto the Gentiles.
Therefore also Israel Thy beloved offereth Thee praise
out of the mouth of innocent babes and sucklings,
as they behold Thee, Christ, enter the Holy City six days before the
Passover. (*twice*)

Six days before the Passover
Jesus entered Bethany,
and His disciples came to Him, saying:
“Lord, where wilt thou that we prepare for Thee to eat the Passover?”
Then He sent them, saying:
“Go into the village opposite,
and ye shall find a man bearing a pitcher of water;
follow him and tell the master of the house:
“The Teacher saith,
‘In thy house shall I eat the Passover with my disciples.’” (*twice*)

Glory...tone 6

Today the grace of the Spirit
hath gathered us together,
and we all take up Thy Cross and say:
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.

Now and ever...tone 6

Today the grace of the Spirit
hath gathered us together,
and we all take up Thy Cross and say:
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.

Readings

1. Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12; 2. Zephaniah 3:14-19; 3. Zechariah 9:9-15

Aposticha, tone 8

Rejoice, and be glad, O city of Zion;
exult and be exceeding joyful, O Church of God.
For behold, thy King hath come in righteousness, seated upon a foal,
and the children sing His praises:
“Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed art Thou who showest great compassion:
have mercy on us.”

verse: **Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou appointed praise.**
The Savior hath come today to the city of Jerusalem,
to fulfill the Scriptures;

and all have taken palms into their hands and spread their garments before
Him,
knowing that He is our God,
to whom the cherubim sing without ceasing:
“Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed art Thou who showest great compassion:
have mercy on us.”

verse: O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is Thy Name in all the earth.

O Thou who ridest on the cherubim and art praised by the seraphim,
Thou hast sat, O gracious Lord, like David on a foal,
and the children honored Thee with praise fitting for God;
but the Jews blasphemed unlawfully against Thee.
Thy riding on a foal prefigured how the Gentiles,
as yet untamed and uninstructed, were to pass from unbelief to faith.
Glory be to Thee, O Christ, who alone art merciful and lovest mankind.

Aposticha, Glory...tone 6

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hath gathered us together,
and we all take up Thy Cross and say:
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.

Now and ever...

Today the grace of the Spirit...

Troparion of the Feast, tone 1 (twice)

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 cometh in the name of the Lord!”

Troparion, tone 4 (once)

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 cometh in the name of the Lord!