

FESTAL ORTHROS ON PALM SUNDAY ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

Priest: Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art in all places, and fillest all things, Treasury of good things, and Giver of life, come, and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain; and save our souls, O good One.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

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

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

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

O fearsome champion, who cannot be put to confusion, despise not our petitions, O good and all-praised Theotokos; establish the way of the Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God and alone art blessed.

LITANY

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

The choir responds "Lord, have mercy" (thrice) in this litany until noted.

Again, we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Again we pray for our father and metropolitan, N., (our bishop, N.,) and all our brotherhood in Christ.

For thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Bless, father, in the name of the Lord.

Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-giving and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men. (*thrice*)

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. (*twice*)

PSALM 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

PSALM 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mocking, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftinesses all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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

PSALM 87

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

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

PSALM 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered; neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

Hearken unto me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. (*twice*)
Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)

O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!

THE GREAT LITANY

Priest: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
The choir responds "Lord, have mercy" to each petition until noted.

For the peace from above and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God and the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and those who with faith, reverence and fear of God enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

For our father and metropolitan, N., (our bishop, N.,) the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For our country, its president (or appropriate head of state), civil authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city and every city and countryside and the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

For healthful seasons, abundance of the fruits of the earth and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

For travelers by sea, by land and by air, the sick, the suffering, the captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

"GOD IS THE LORD" IN TONE ONE

Choir: God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Verse 1. O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Holy Name. (*Refrain*)

Verse 2. All nations compassed me about: but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them. (*Refrain*)

Verse 3. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (*Refrain*)

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE ONE (CHANT) (CHORAL)

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to

Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE ONE (CHANT) (CHORAL)

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

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR (CHANT) (CHORAL)

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

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

THE LITTLE LITANY

Priest: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For thine is the might, and thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

- *NOTE: The hymns of the kathismata and hymns after the Polyeleos may be plainly read or chanted at the discretion of the pastor.*

PALM SUNDAY KATHISMATA HYMNS (Plain Reading)

First Kathisma in Tone Four

*(**Joseph was amazed—hard chromatic**)*

Cleansed within in mind and soul, * now like the children let us praise * Christ with longing and with faith, * and holding branches, let us shout * unto the Master: Most blessed art Thou, O Savior, * that comest in the world * to save Adam's stock * from the ancient curse, * Thyself now spiritually * having become the new Adam, * O Friend of man, as seemed good to Thee. * To Thee be glory, O Word, Who workest * all things unto our profit.

*(**On this day Thou hast appeared**)*

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

Lazarus the four days dead, * Thou, Lord, didst raise up * from the very sepulcher, * teaching all men to cry to Thee, * with palms and branches in fervent faith: * Blessed art Thou that dost come in the Name of the Lord.

Second Kathisma

In Tone Four (***Joseph was amazed*—hard chromatic**)

Thou dost mystically shed tears * over Thy friend, O Christ our God, * and the mortal Lazarus *
Thou dost awaken from the dead, * in him displaying the goodness of Thy compassion * in Thy
great love for man; * and when the multitudes * of the little babes * learned Thou wast present
there, * then holding palm-branches they came forth * this day to meet Thee, while crying out: *
Hosanna, blessed art Thou, for Thou comest * to save the whole world, O Savior.

In Tone One (***While Gabriel was saying***)

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

Ye peoples and ye nations, with one accord sing praises, * for the King of Angels is mounted upon
a colt and cometh; * for He doth now purpose, by the Cross, * to trample down the foe with mighty
strength. * For this cause, the children also, while holding palms, * cry out with the hymn of
vict'ry: * Glory to Thee, the Victor Who is come. * Glory to Thee, O Savior Christ. * Glory to
Thee, our only blessed God.

THE POLYELEOS IN TONE ONE (ABRIDGED)

We sing this as we sing no Evlogetaria today. End each numbered verse with “Alleluia.”

1. O ye servants praise the Lord.
 2. Praise ye the Name of the Lord, O ye servants of the Lord.
 3. Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.
 4. Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good. Chant unto His Name, for it is good.
 5. For the Lord hath chosen Jacob unto Himself, Israel for His own possession.
 6. For I know that the Lord is great and that our Lord is above all gods.
 7. All that the Lord hath willed He hath done, in Heaven and on the earth, in the seas and in all
the abysses.
 8. Bringing clouds up from the uttermost parts of the earth, lightnings for the rain hath He made.
 9. He bringeth winds out of His treasuries; He smote the first-born of Egypt, from man unto beast.
 10. He sent forth many signs and marvels in the midst of thee, O Egypt, on Pharaoh and on all his
servants.
 11. He smote many nations and slew many kings.
 12. For the Lord will judge His people, and because of His servants shall He be comforted.
 13. Ye that fear the Lord, bless ye the Lord. Blessed is the Lord out of Sion, Who dwelleth in
Jerusalem.
- + Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages
of ages. Amen.
- + Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia: glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)
- + O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee.

THE LITTLE LITANY

Priest: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For blessed is Thy name and glorified is Thy kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

HYMNS AFTER THE POLYELEOS IN TONE EIGHT (When the bodiless one**)**

He that doth sit on the Cherubim now also * for us doth sit on a colt, as He approacheth * to His freely-willed Passion; and this day He heareth * the children who cry Hosanna with mighty voice; * the throngs shout: O Son of David, swiftly make haste * for to save those whom Thou hast formed, * O blessed Jesus, for Thou * art come for this, that we might know * Thy great glory, O Friend of man.

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

He that doth sit on the Cherubim ... *(repeat above)*

FESTAL ANABATHMOI IN TONE FOUR

- + From my youth up many passions have warred against me. But do Thou help and save me, O my Savior. *(repeat)*
- + Ye who hate Zion shall be put to confusion of the Lord; like grass in the fire shall ye be withered up. *(repeat)*
- + *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.*
- + Through the Holy Spirit is every soul quickened and exalted in purity, and made resplendent by the Triune Unity in mystic holiness.
- + *Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*
- + Through the Holy Spirit the channels and streams of grace overflow showering all creation with invigorating Life.

PALM SUNDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou perfected praise. *(twice)*

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

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou perfected praise.

LET EVERYTHING THAT HATH BREATH

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For Holy art Thou, O our God, Who restest in the holies, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. *(twice)*

Praise ye God in His saints; praise Him in the firm foundation of His power.
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

THE FESTAL ORTHROS GOSPEL

Deacon: And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us beseech the Lord our God.
Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)
Deacon: Wisdom! Stand upright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.
Priest: Peace be to all.
Choir: And to thy spirit.
Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew (21:1-11, 15-17).
Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.
Deacon: Let us attend!

TO BE READ FROM THE BEAUTIFUL GATE

Priest: At that time, when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two Disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your King is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The Disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their garments on them, and He sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when He entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee." But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant; and they said to Him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings Thou hast brought perfect praise?'" And leaving them, He went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee. (*No veneration of the gospel book.*)

PSALM 50

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and

gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

PALM SUNDAY TROPARIA AFTER PSALM 50 IN TONE TWO

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

Today Christ entereth into the Holy City, sitting on a colt, ending the pernicious senselessness of the heathen, long in a hardened state.

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

Today Christ entereth into the Holy City, sitting on a colt, ending the pernicious senselessness of the heathen, long in a hardened state.

(TONE SIX) Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

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

THE INTERCESSION¹

Deacon: O God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Visit Thy world with mercy and compassions. Exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians and send down upon us Thy rich mercies. Through the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, all-laudable apostles Peter and Paul, and of all the holy apostles; of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Athanasius, Cyril and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon of Trimythous and Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworkers; of our fathers among the saints Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Raphael, bishop of Brooklyn; of the holy, glorious, great-martyrs, George the Trophy-bearer, Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Soldier, Theodore the General, and Menas the Wonderworker; of the hieromartyrs Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch, Charalampos and Eleutherios; of the holy, glorious great women martyrs, Thekla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriaki, Photeini, Marina, Paraskeva and Irene; of the holy, glorious, right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers who shone in the ascetic life; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: we beseech Thee, O most merciful Lord, hearken unto the petitions of us sinners who make our supplications unto Thee, and have mercy upon us.

¹ Saints of particular local veneration may be included among the Saints of their same classification at the discretion of the pastor.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*twelve times*)

Priest: Through the mercies and compassions and love for mankind of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

KONTAKION AND OIKOS FOR PALM SUNDAY (Plain Reading)

Being borne upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, Thou didst accept the praise of the angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to Thee: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.

Since Thou didst bind Hades, O Immortal One, and slewest death and didst raise up the world, the little children with palm-branches loudly praised Thee as the Victor, O Christ, shouting unto Thee today: Hosanna to the Son of David, for no longer shall infants be slain because of Mariam's Infant, but for the sake of all, infants and elders, Thou alone art crucified. No longer shall the sword be turned against us, for Thy side shall be pierced with a spear. Wherefore, we say in gladness: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the Sunday of Palms, we celebrate the radiant and glorious festival of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.

Verses

Riding a colt, He that with a word stretched out Heaven,
Seeketh to loose mortals from brutish want of reason.

Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and Death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel.

By Thine ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, make us victors over our deceitful passions, and deem us worthy to behold Thy brilliant victory over death and Thy radiant and life-bringing Resurrection, and have mercy on us. Amen.

KATAVASIAE OF THE PALM SUNDAY CANON IN TONE FOUR

Ode 1. The springs of the abyss were seen to be utterly dried up, and uncovered were the foundations of the surging sea; for Thou didst rebuke with Thy beck the raging storm thereof, and didst save Thine own people as they sang a hymn of victory unto Thee, O Lord.

Ode 3. The Israelite people drank from a sharp and flinty rock when it flowed at Thy command; and Thou art that rock, O Christ, and the Life, on Whom the Church is established as she crieth out: Hosanna, blessed art Thou that comest.

Ode 4. Christ our God, Who cometh manifestly, shall come and will not tarry, from the densely overshadowed mountain, the Maiden who giveth birth without experience of man, saith the Prophet of old. Wherefore, we all cry: Glory tot Thy power, O Lord.

Ode 5. Thou who proclaimest good tidings to Sion, ascend the mountain; and thou who dost preach unto Jerusalem, raise Thy voice with might. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Peace be to Israel, and salvation to the nations.

Ode 6. The spirits of the righteous cried out in gladness: Now is there a new covenant with the world; and let the people be renewed by being sprinkled with Divine Blood.

Ode 7. Thou Who didst preserve Thine Abrahamite Children in the fire, and didst destroy the Chaldeans who unjustly ensnared the righteous: O supremely praised Lord, Thou God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.

Ode 8. Rejoice, O Jerusalem; keep festival, ye that love Sion; for the Lord of Hosts is come, Who is King unto the ages. Let all the earth show due reverence before Him and cry: O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord.

Deacon: The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honor and magnify in song.

THE NINTH ODE OF THE PALM SUNDAY CANON IN TONE FOUR

God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us; ordain a feast, and rejoicing, come let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, crying out with hymns: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Wherefore have ye trembled, O ye heathen? And ye scribes and priests, why have ye meditated empty things, saying: Who is this? To Whom the children with palms and branches cry out in hymns: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

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

This is the God to Whom none can be compared. He hath found out the whole righteous way, and hath given it to Israel His beloved. Afterward, He was seen, and lived among men. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

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

Ye disobedient, why have ye placed stumbling-blocks in our path? Your feet are swift to shed the blood of the Master, but He shall rise to save all that cry: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us; ordain a feast, and rejoicing, come let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, crying out with hymns: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

THE LITTLE LITANY

Deacon: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For all the powers of heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee do they ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.
Holy is the Lord our God. (*thrice*)

- *NOTE: Because Palm Sunday does not have an exaposteilarion, “The Prayer of the Palms” is offered in its place. The clergy carry with them the sprinkler filled with Holy Water and exit the sanctuary to stand before the table where the palm leaves have been placed.*

THE PRAYER OF THE PALMS

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord our God, Who sittest upon the Cherubim, Who hast raised up the might of Thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that through His Cross, Grave and Resurrection He might save the world; and at Whose coming today to Jerusalem, unto His voluntary Passion, the people that sat in darkness and in the shadow of death taking the symbols of victory, the boughs of trees and the branches of palms, did go forth and proclaim the Resurrection, by anticipation. Do Thou, the same Lord, preserve and keep us also who in imitation of them do bear in our hands palms and boughs of trees, on this day of the feast. And like unto those multitudes and children who offered unto Thee “Hosanna,” may we also in hymns and spiritual songs, attain unto the Life-giving Resurrection on the third day, in the same Christ Jesus our Lord, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good and Life-giving Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

- *The priest now sprinkles the palms with Holy Water three times, saying each time:*

Priest: These palms are blessed by the Grace of the All-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling with this Holy Water, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Choir: Amen.

- *The clergy return to the sanctuary, and Orthros continues.*

AINOI (PRAISES) IN TONE FOUR (KAZAN) (KARAM)

Choir: Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

Choir: Praise ye Him, all His angels; praise ye Him, all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

For Palm Sunday in Tone Four

Verse 1. Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

O Lord, the very great multitude strewed their garments in the way, and others cut branches from the trees and carried them; and they that went before and they that followed, cried, saying: Hosanna to the Son of David, blessed art Thou that comest and shalt come again, in the Name of the Lord.

Verse 2. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

When Thou wast about to enter the Holy City, O Lord, the people carried the branches of trees, praising Thee, the Master of all; when they saw Thee sitting upon a colt, it was as if they beheld Thee upon the Cherubim; and for this cause, thus they cried: Hosanna in the highest, blessed art Thou that comest, and shalt come again, in the Name of the Lord.

Verse 3. Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise Him with strings and flutes.

Come forth, O ye nations; come forth, ye peoples; and see today the King of the Heavens coming to Jerusalem on a common colt as upon an exalted throne. O unbelieving and adulterous generation of the Jews, come and behold Him Whom Esaias saw coming in the flesh for our sakes, how He taketh unto Himself the new Sion as a chaste bride, and casteth away the condemned synagogue. And the children, innocent and undefiled, have come together as to an undefiled and incorrupt wedding-feast, loudly singing praise. Joining them in song, let us cry out the angelic hymn: Hosanna in the highest unto Him Who hath great mercy.

Verse 4. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation. Let every breath praise the Lord.

Before Thy voluntary Passion, O Christ God, foreshowing the common Resurrection for the confirmation of all, Thou didst raise Lazarus in Bethany by Thy sovereign power when he had been dead four days; and as the Giver of Light, O Savior, Thou gavest sight to the blind. Thou didst enter also into the Holy City with Thy disciples, sitting on the colt of an ass, fulfilling the preaching of the Prophets, as though riding upon the Cherubim; and the children of the Hebrews came to meet Thee with branches and palms. Wherefore, we also, bearing olive branches and palms, thankfully cry to Thee: Hosanna in the highest, blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

THE DOXASTICON OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

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

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany; and His disciples came to Him, saying unto Him: Lord, where wilt Thou that we prepare for Thee to eat the Passover? And He sent them, saying: Go into the village over against you, and ye shall find a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the master of the house: The Teacher saith: I will keep the Passover at thy house with My disciples.

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY IN TONE SIX

- + Glory to thee, Who hast shown forth the light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.
- + We hymn Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.

- + O Lord King, heavenly God, Father almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit.
- + O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, thou that takest away the sins of the world.
- + Receive our prayer, Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.
- + For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
- + Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name forever, yea forever and ever.
- + Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever. Amen.
- + Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on thee.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. (*thrice*)
- + Lord, thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.
- + Lord, I have fled unto Thee; teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.
- + For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light.
- + O continue Thy mercy unto them that know thee.
- + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)
- + Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
- + Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
- + Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.
- + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR (CHANT) (CHORAL)

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM NOW BEGINS.

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