Entrance, "O gladsome Light...", and the Prokeimenon of the day, "The Lord is King..."

Deacon (Priest): Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Genesis. (49:1-2, 8-12)

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father. Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes; His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

Deacon (Priest): Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Zephaniah. (3:14-19)

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: Thus saith the Lord: Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden. Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.
Deacon (Priest): Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Zachariah. (9: 9-15)

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: Thus saith the Lord: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth. As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water. Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee; When I have bent Judah for me, filled the bow with Ephraim, and raised up thy sons, O Zion, against thy sons, O Greece, and made thee as the sword of a mighty man. And the Lord shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Lord God shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south. The Lord of hosts shall defend them.
The All-Holy Spirit, who taught the apostles to speak in strange and different tongues, now inspires the innocent children of the Hebrews to cry aloud: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh, the King of Israel.
In the same Tone

The Son and Word of the Father, /
like Him without beginning and eternal, /
has come today to the city of Jerusalem, /
seated on a dumb beast on a foal. /
From fear the cherubim dare not gaze upon Him; /
yet the children honour Him with palms and branches, /
and mystically they sing a hymn of praise: /
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to the Son of David, //
Who has come to save from error all mankind.

Six days before the Passover, O Lord, /
Thy voice was heard in the depths of hell, /
And from it Thou hast raised up Lazarus who was four days dead. /
Then the children of the Hebrews cried aloud: //
"Hosanna to our God: glory to Thee!"

Tone 2

Entering, O Lord, into the Holy City, seated upon a foal, /
Thou hast drawn near with haste unto Thy Passion, /
To fulfill the law and the Prophets. /
Then the children of the Hebrews. foretelling the victory of the Resurrection, /
Came to meet Thee with palms and branches saying: //
"Blessed art Thou, O Saviour; have mercy upon us."
In the same Tone

Glory be to Thee, O Christ, /
Who art seated in the heights upon Thy throne, /
and Whom we now await with Thy precious Cross. /
Therefore, the daughter of Zion is glad, /
and the nations of the earth rejoice exceedingly. /
The children hold branches and the disciples spread their garments in the way; /
and all the inhabited earth is taught to cry aloud to Thee: //
Blessed art Thou, O Saviour; have mercy upon us.

Reader: Glory, both now, in the 3rd Tone.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, /
to call back Lazarus who was four days dead, /
and to proclaim the coming Resurrection. /
The women Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus, came to meet Him crying: /
"Lord if Thou hast been here, our brother had not died." /
Then He answered them: "Did I not say to you before: /
He who believes in Me, though He were dead, yet shall he live? /
Show Me where ye have laid him." //
And the Maker of all cried unto him, "Lazarus, come forth."

English text adapted from: "The Lenten Triodion", translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware.
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