

PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of Palms



Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
February 2008

Blessing of Palms

During the censing, the faithful sing this hymn:

melody: Iže Cheruvimy #1

Re - jice to - day with all your heart, O daugh-ter Zi - on.

Here is your King coming to you, as He sits up - on a colt. Zech-a - ri - ah

now proclaims, Zeph-a - ni - ah joins with him to pro claim the Mas³ - ter,

the Mas - ter. Ho-san-na in the high - est, He who comes is

bless - ed! En - ter now Je - ru - sa-lem, the Re-deem-er of the world.

Now we sing in glo - rious praise, and pro-claim His ho - ly Name,

"Ho - san - na in the high³ - est," for - ev - er.

While the following sticheron is sung, the priest censes the palms crosswise.

Tone 6 samohlasen

To - day the grace of the Holy Spirit has gathered us to-geth-er and tak-ing

up your Cross, we all say: Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,

Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: O Lord our God, enthroned upon the cherubim: you have reaffirmed your power and sent your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to save the world through his Cross, Burial, and Resurrection. When he drew near to Jerusalem for his voluntary Passion, the people that sat in darkness and the shadow of death took, as tokens of his victory, boughs of trees and branches of palms, thus foretelling his resurrection. O Master, keep and preserve us also as, following their example on this eve of the Feast we carry in our hands palms and branches like the crowds and the children crying "Hosanna!" to you. With hymns and spiritual songs, may we attain the life-giving Resurrection on the third day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom you are blessed, together with your most holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - - men.

Then the priest sprinkles the branches with holy water, saying:

Priest: These branches are blessed by the grace of the All-Holy Spirit, through sprinkling with this holy water: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Response:



A - men.

The branches are then distributed, and the following hymn is sung:



1. The peo - ple in great throngs had gath - ered to greet our
2. That day the streets were filled with peo - ple; with palms and
3. Christ en - tered in this ho - ly cit - y, an - oth - er
4. Come forth and greet the King of Glo-ry. He hum - bly comes



Lord in Je - ru - sa - lem. They called Him King and cried Ho-
branch-es, flow'rs in their hands, they waved them high and cried Ho-
proph - e - cy to ful - fill. We know that now their cries Ho-
in - to our midst to - day. Pro - claim Him King and cry Ho-



san - na, O Son of Da - vid, King of Is - ra - el,
san - na, O Son of Da - vid, King of Is - ra - el,
san - na, would change to Cru - ci - fy, A - way with Him,
san - na; an - nounce the king - dom which is here to stay;



O Son of Da - vid, King of Is - ra - el.
O Son of Da - vid, King of Is - ra - el,
would change to Cru - ci - fy, A - way with Him.
an - nounce the king - dom which is here to stay.