April 5

On Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands, and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewed them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, crying out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

The branches of the palm trees symbolize Christ's victory over the devil and death. The word Hosanna means "Save, I pray," or "Save, now." The foal of an ass, and Jesus' sitting thereon, and the fact that this animal was untamed and considered unclean according to the Law, signified the former uncleanness and wildness of the nations, and their subjection thereafter to the holy Law of the Gospel.

Misplaced Expectations

A young boy returned from his first major league baseball game very disappointed. Even though his favorite team won the game, the young boy said to his grandfather, "I'll never go to another game again!" "Why not," his grandfather asked, "your team won the game -why are you disappointed?" The boy answered, "I wanted my favorite player to hit a home run to where I was sitting and I wanted to catch the ball and I wanted to get it autographed after the game!" "I've been hoping for that all my life, too," said his grandfather with a smile.

Quite often, the disappointment that we feel towards a person or about a situation or circumstance is due to the fact that our expectations of that person or about that situation are misplaced, misguided, or misunderstood. We see an example of this in today's Gospel reading about our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem.

Many of the same people who enthusiastically greeted Jesus when He entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday would just as passionately demand His crucifixion only a few days later. Why? It is because their expectations of Him were misplaced. That is, many people presumed that the long-awaited Messiah would be a great military leader or a political revolutionary who would lead them out of Roman subjugation and into independence. They did not consider the possibility of a Messiah who would conquer not armies, but death itself.

What do we expect from God? Like the little boy at the baseball game, are we disappointed when we don't get what we want? Let us recall that the Lord knows what we need even before we ask or are aware of it!

The Entrance into Jerusalem
Palm Sunday



Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem

Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

April 5, 2026

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Halkias
Parish Priest
Home: 330-956-9039
Email: frnick@htgoc.net

Deacon Michael El-Bardawil
Cell: 330-209-7235

Dan Speece
Parish Council President
Cell: 240-483-6930
Email:djspeece@aol.com

Office: 330-494-8770
office@htgoc.net
www.htgoc.net

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
(Closed noon-1pm for lunch)

Sunday Services
Orthros 8:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Orthros Liturgy

Epistle
Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel
John 12:1-18

Attendance
3/29/26
180

Today's Prosfora & Communion Wine

Saturday of Lazarus
Donated by Tom & Mary Papadopoulos
In Loving Memory of Larry Anastas

Donated by Afro Karasarides
In Loving Memory of Christos Karasarides

Upcoming Memorials

April 26
1-Yr. Memorial & Coffee Hour - Barry Giamourides
Memorial & Coffee Hour - Kathryn McClure

GOYA PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON TODAY

Immediately following Divine Liturgy

COST: $18.00 (Baked Fish or Plaki will be available)

There are limited tickets available for purchase!

YOUTH LUMINARY PROJECT - GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10



Luminary Forms are available after Divine Liturgy today with a Youth Representative to place orders. **Each Luminary is $5.00** and can be designated in memory of or for the health of someone.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS TODAY, April 5th.

EGG HUNT - PASCHA SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH



On Sunday, April 12th - Bring the kids to Church and stay for the egg hunt!!! **THERE ARE PRIZES FOR EVERYONE!** See you there!!! Sunday School is sponsoring this event!








Please join Sunday School as they host a Picnic Lunch!

May 17th following liturgy

Please come to church to see our Sunday School children be recognized for a great year and stay for lunch and celebrate with our wonderful children. This is our last day of Sunday School for the year and we want to treat you!



SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Apply Now Online!

To apply for the **Holy Trinity Scholarships**, please visit the website at https://htgoc.net/events/scholarships/htgoc-scholarship-applications to fill out the application. **All applications are due by April 30, 2026.**



Daughters of Penelope 58th Annual Debutantes Ball

Saturday, April 18, 2026
Doors open at 7:30pm
St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church Krassas Event Center
Tickets: $25 per person
Contact Frances Pantelides at 330-284-3929
Semi Formal Attire Requested

Attention Graduating Seniors (High School & College)

Please contact Lori in the Church Office at 330-494-8770 or email her at office@htgoc.net if you are graduating this year and provide the graduate's name, date of graduation, school graduating from, and if a college graduate, please provide the major. Please include a picture with the email! **Name Day is May 31, 2026 where graduates will be recognized.**

VISIT OUR BOOKSTORE!

As we journey through Great Lent and prepare our hearts for the joy of Pascha, the Bookstore invites you to come and see the many treasures available for the season. Explore a wide selection of spiritual reading for both children and adults, icons and devotional items, plus some thoughtful items perfect for filling Easter baskets. Come browse, be inspired and enrich your celebration of this blessed time.

FESTIVAL BAKING SCHEDULE:

April 18 - Tsoureki

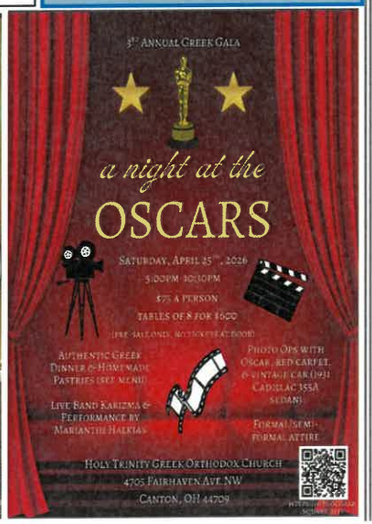
May 8 & 9 - Baklava

May 16 - Fengarakia

May 25 - Paximathia







Calendar for the Week

All Services are streaming online @ *www.htgoc.net/live*

Sunday, April 5
Palm Sunday
Palm Crosses will be blessed and passed out at the end of Orthros
GOYA Palm Sunday Fish Dinner 11:30 AM
Bridegroom Service 6:30 PM

Monday, April 6
Presanctified Liturgy 9:00 AM
Bridegroom Service 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 7
Presanctified Liturgy 9:00 AM
Bridegroom Service 6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 8
Presanctified Liturgy 9:00 AM
Holy Unction 2:30 PM
Bridegroom Service w/ Anointing 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 9
Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great with Communion 9:00 AM
Service of the 12 Gospels/Lords Passion 6:00 PM
GOYA Vigil by Cross 11:00 PM

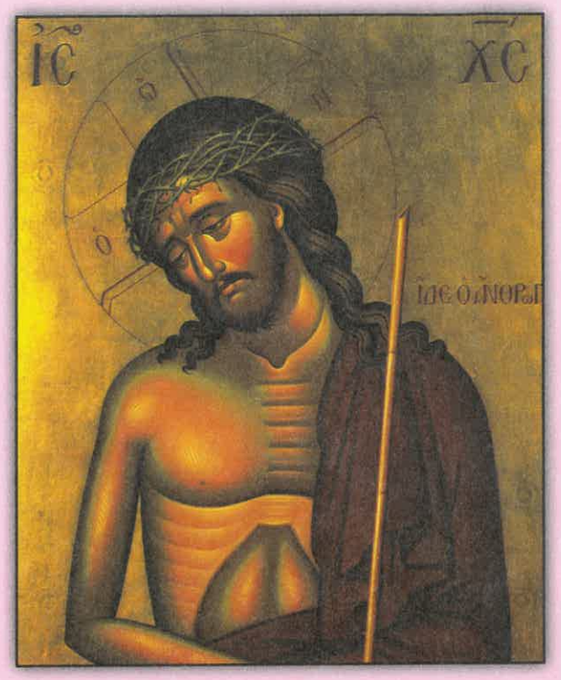
Friday, April 10
Royal Hours 9:00 AM
Apokathilosis 2:30 PM
Trisagion 6:00 PM
Epitaphio 6:30 PM

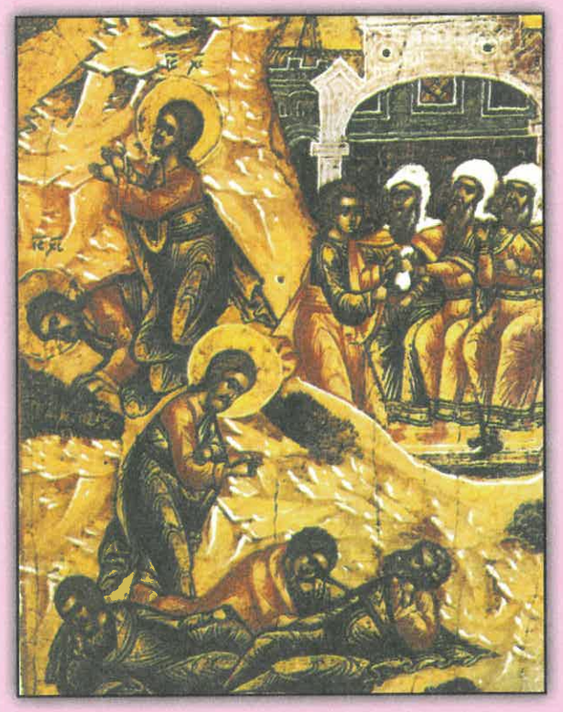
Saturday, April 11
Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great 9:00 AM
Canon of Pascha 11:00 PM
Divine Liturgy - Holy Resurrection 12:00 AM
Resurrection Meal to Follow by the Koraes Ladies Society

Sunday, April 12
Great and Holy Pascha
Agape Vespers 11:00 AM
Egg Hunt to Follow for All Ages

Great and Holy Monday
Commemoration of the unproductive fig tree the Lord Jesus curses as He walks outside Jerusalem (Mt 21:18)

The coming day shines with the beginning of the Passion of the Lord. Come, let us celebrate this mystery; let us go meet Him with our hymns. For the Creator draws near to endure the Cross; led before Pilate, He submits to the questions, the whipping and the judgment; struck by a servant, He endures all to save the human race. Therefore, we cry out to Him: O Christ our God, the Lover of Humankind, grant the forgiveness of their sins to those who venerate your holy Passion with faith.





Great and Holy Tuesday
Commemoration of the Lord's parable of the Ten Wise Virgins (Mt 25:14)

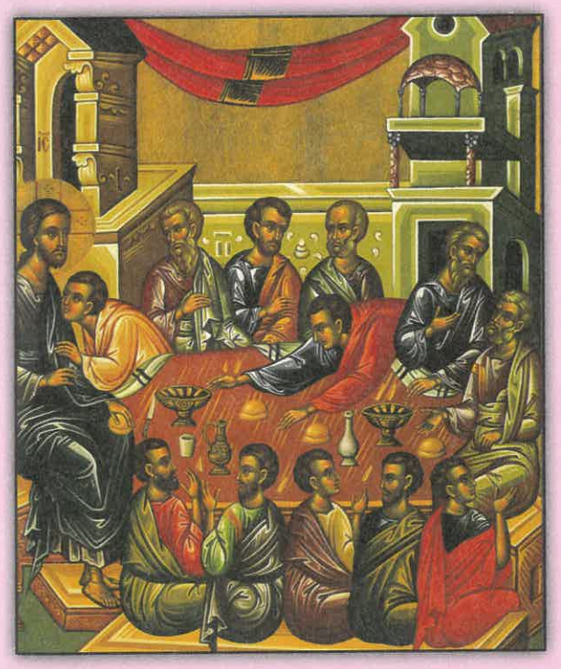
The priests, scribes and the council of the impious have gathered against You, O God our Savior; through jealousy they persuaded Judas to betray You: he was not ashamed to go out and speak against You, saying to the lawless ones: What will you give me if I hand Him over to you? O Lord, spare our souls from such a condemnation.

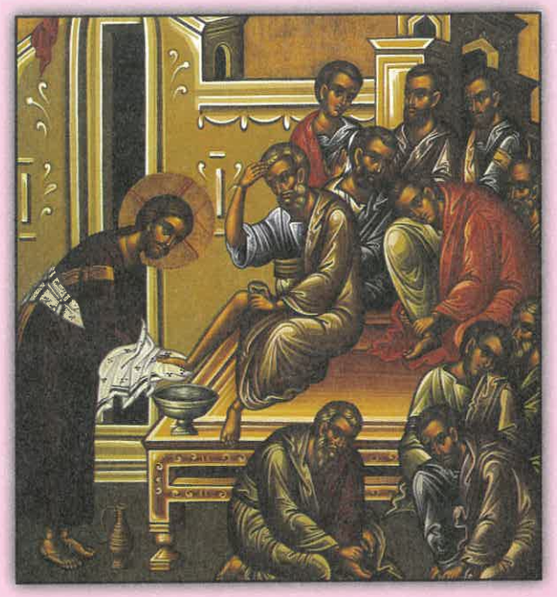
Impelled by his burning love of money, the impious Judas ponders and plots the betrayal of his Master. He falls from light into darkness; he sells the One who is beyond all price; and for the price of his betrayal, the miserable one meets death through hanging. Spare us this same destiny, O Christ our God, and grant the forgiveness of sins to those who with love praise your holy Passion.

Great and Holy Wednesday
Commemoration of the betrayal of our Lord by Judas, and the annointing of our Lord by Mary at Bethany

The harlot drew near to You, O God of goodness, to pour upon your feet the precious ointment along with her tears; at your command, she was delivered from the scourge of evil; but the ungrateful disciple who was filled with your grace, turned away from You and sunk into the mire by betraying You through his greed. Glory to your infinite mercy, O Christ.

With her sighs, the sinful woman cried out to You, O God of goodness, and as she fervently dried your most pure feet with her hair, she said from the depths of her heart: Do not scorn me, my God, nor cast me far from You; but accept my repentance, and in your goodness, save me.





Great and Holy Thursday
Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, and the washing of the feet of the disciples by Jesus

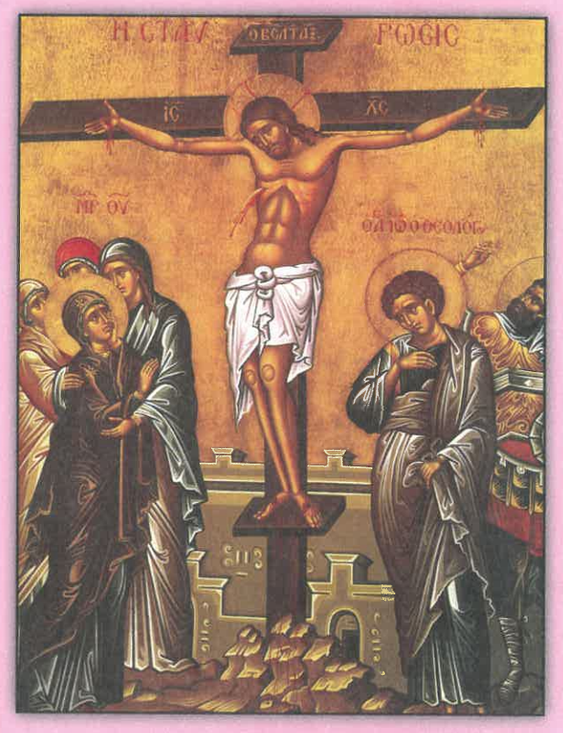
He who made the lakes, the springs and the seas, shows us the greatest humility: He girds himself with a linen cloth and washes the feet of his disciples; in his infinite mercy, He lowers himself, and He draws us up from the abyss of evil, for He alone is the Lover of Humankind.

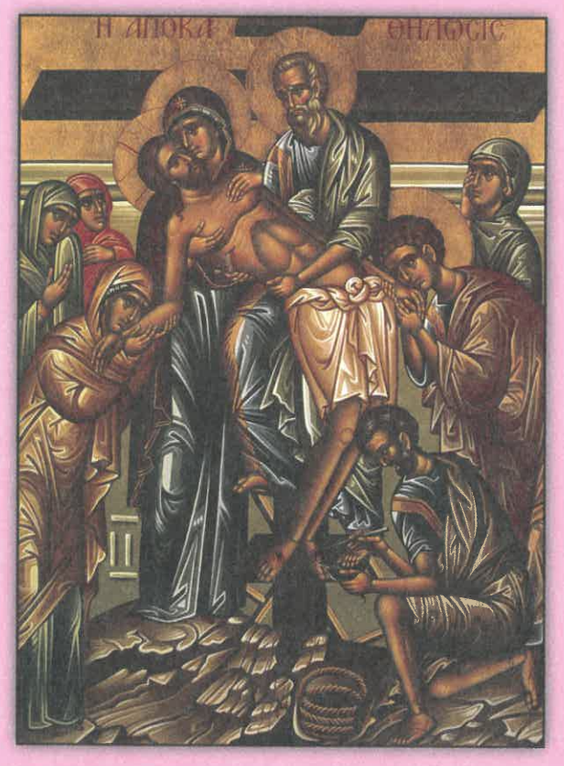
In your mercy, You humbled yourself and washed the feet of your disciples, thus preparing them to walk in the divine footsteps. Peter at first refused to be washed, but then obeyed your divine command; and while you were washing him, O Lord, he earnestly begged You to grant us your great mercy.

Great and Holy Friday
The Crucifixion, Death and Burial of Our Lord

O God, when You stood before Caiaphas and let yourself, O Judge, be delivered to Pilate, the heavenly powers trembled in fear. O sinless Lord, You were crucified between two thieves and numbered among the lawless ones. You did all this just to save humankind. O most kind Lord, glory to You.

You have redeemed us from the curse of the Law with your precious blood; nailed to the Cross and pierced with the lance, You have gushed forth immortality to all. O our Savior, glory to You.





Great and Holy Saturday
The Great and Holy Sabbath rest in the tomb and the conquering of Hades

Joseph went to Pilate and begged for your body; he wrapped it in a pure linen cloth, anointed it with precious spices and placed it in a new tomb. Early in the morning, the holy myrrh-bearers cried out: O Christ, as You foretold, show us your Resurrection.

The soldiers guarding your tomb, O Savior, became as dead men at the lightening flash of the angel who appeared to announce your Resurrection to the women. We glorify You, for You have cleansed us from corruption. We fall down before You, for You rose from the tomb, our only God.

All text from Vesper Stichera of Holy Week, The Lenten Triodion, *Sisters of Saint Basil, Uniontown, PA*

Eastern Christian Bulletin Service -- PO Box 3909 -- Fairfax, VA 22038-3909 www.ecbulletin.com Ph: 703-691-8862 Fax: 703-691-0513

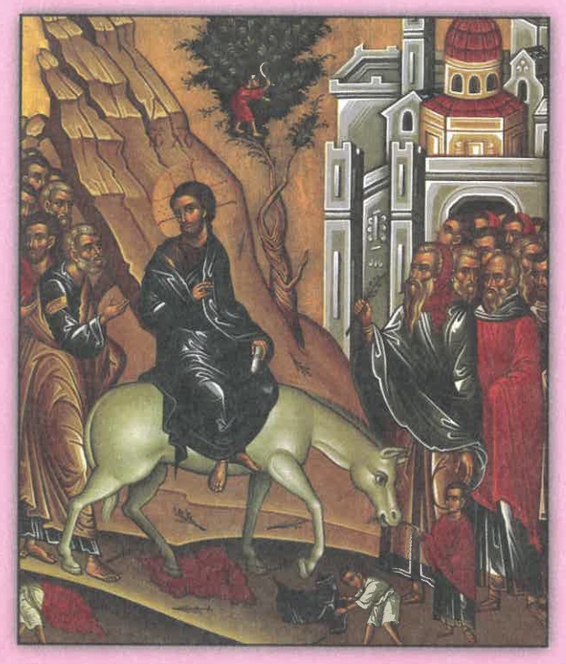
The Great Week
The Holy Days of Our Lord's Passion

Lazarus Saturday

Taking pity on the tears of Martha and Mary, O Christ our God, you ordered the stone to be rolled away from the tomb; by your call, You raised the dead man and broke the bolts of Hades to establish our faith in the life-giving resurrection of all. Glory to your power, O Savior; glory to your sovereign majesty; glory to You, for by your word, You uphold the whole world.

O Fountain of wisdom and eternal knowledge, arriving at Bethany, You asked those who were with Martha: Where have you placed Lazarus, my friend? You wept tears of compassion over the one who had been dead four days; and, by your voice, You raised him, O Giver of life and compassionate Lord.





Palm Sunday
The Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem

Carrying palms in spirit and with our souls purified, as the children of old, let us praise Christ in faith; and let us sing to Him with a full voice: Blessed are You, O Savior, who comes into this world to save Adam from the ancient curse, and who have willed to become the new spiritual Adam. O Word, You have fulfilled all things for our salvation, glory to You.

O peoples and nations, sing with one voice: The King of the angels comes, seated upon the colt of a donkey, to conquer the Enemy by the power of the Cross. The children carry palms and cry out to Him: Glory, victory and welcome; glory to You, O Christ our Savior; glory and praise to our only God!

Apolytikion.
Mode 1.

To confirm the general resurrection before Your Passion, You resurrected Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore imitating the children, carrying the symbols of victory, we cry out to You the Victor over death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One, who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Another.
Mode 4.

We were buried with You through Baptism, O Christ our God, and thus by Your Resurrection we have been granted immortal life, and extolling You we cry aloud, “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Kontakion.
Mode pl. 2. *Automelon.*

In heaven upon the throne, on earth upon the colt, * You were carried, O Christ our God; * and the praise of the Angels, and the hymns of the children, You received as they cried to You, * “Blessed are You, the One, who is coming to call Adam back again.”

St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9

Prokeimenon. Mode 4
Psalm 117.26,1
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His mercy endures forever.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

The Gospel According to John 12:1-18

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

Ἀπολυτίκιον.
Ἦχος α΄.

Τὴν κοινὴν Ἀνάστασιν πρὸ τοῦ σοῦ Πάθους πιστούμενος, ἐκ νεκρῶν ἤγειρας τὸν Λάζαρον, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός· ὅθεν καὶ ἡμεῖς ὡς οἱ Παῖδες, τὰ τῆς νίκης σύμβολα φέροντες, σοὶ τῷ Νικητῇ τοῦ θανάτου βοῶμεν· Ὡσαννὰ ἐν τοῖς ὑψίστοις, εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος, ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου.

Ἕτερον.
Ἦχος δ΄.

Συνταφέντες σοι διὰ τοῦ Βαπτίσματος, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, τῆς ἀθανάτου ζωῆς ἠξιώθημεν τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, καὶ ἀνυμνοῦντες κράζομεν· Ὡσαννὰ ἐν τοῖς ὑψίστοις, εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος, ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου.

Κοντάκιον.
Ἦχος πλ. β΄. *Αὐτόμελον.*

Τῷ θρόνῳ ἐν οὐρανῷ, τῷ πώλῳ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ἐποχούμενος Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, τῶν Ἀγγέλων τὴν αἴνεσιν, καὶ τῶν Παίδων ἀνύμνησιν προσεδέξω βοώντων σοι· Εὐλογημένος εἶ ὁ ἐρχόμενος, τὸν Ἀδὰμ ἀνακαλέσασθαι.

Πρὸς Φιλιππησίους 4:4-9

Προκείμενον. Ήχος δ'
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 117.26,1

Εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου.
Στίχ. Στίχ. Ἐξομολογεῖσθε τῷ Κυρίῳ ὅτι ἀγαθὸς, ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ.

Πρὸς Φιλιππησίους 4:4-9 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, χαίρετε ἐν κυρίῳ πάντοτε· πάλιν ἐρῶ, χαίρετε. Τὸ ἐπιεικὲς ὑμῶν γνωσθήτω πᾶσιν ἀνθρώποις. Ὁ κύριος ἐγγύς. Μηδὲν μεριμνᾶτε, ἀλλ’ ἐν παντὶ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ δεήσει μετὰ εὐχαριστίας τὰ αἰτήματα ὑμῶν γνωριζέσθω πρὸς τὸν θεόν. Καὶ ἡ εἰρήνη τοῦ θεοῦ ἡ ὑπερέχουσα πάντα νοῦν, φρουρήσει τὰς καρδίας ὑμῶν καὶ τὰ νοήματα ὑμῶν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. Τὸ λοιπόν, ἀδελφοί, ὅσα ἐστὶν ἀληθῆ, ὅσα σεμνά, ὅσα δίκαια, ὅσα ἁγνά, ὅσα προσφιλῆ, ὅσα εὔφημα, εἴ τις ἀρετὴ καὶ εἴ τις ἔπαινος, ταῦτα λογίζεσθε. Ἃ καὶ ἐμάθετε καὶ παρελάβετε καὶ ἠκούσατε καὶ εἴδετε ἐν ἐμοί, ταῦτα πράσσετε· καὶ ὁ θεὸς τῆς εἰρήνης ἔσται μεθ’ ὑμῶν.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ἰωάννην 12:1-18 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Πρὸ ἓξ ἡμερῶν τοῦ πάσχα ἦλθεν Ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς Βηθανίαν, ὅπου ἦν Λάζαρος ὁ τεθνηκώς, ὃν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν. ἐποίησαν οὖν αὐτῷ δεῖπνον ἐκεῖ, καὶ ἡ Μάρθα διηκόνει· ὁ δὲ Λάζαρος εἷς ἦν τῶν ἀνακειμένων σὺν αὐτῷ. ἡ οὖν Μαρία, λαβοῦσα λίτραν μύρου νάρδου πιστικῆς πολυτίμου, ἤλειψε τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ καὶ ἐξέμαξε ταῖς θριξὶν αὐτῆς τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ· ἡ δὲ οἰκία ἐπληρώθη ἐκ τῆς ὀσμῆς τοῦ μύρου. λέγει οὖν εἷς ἐκ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ, Ἰούδας Σίμωνος Ἰσκαριώτης, ὁ μέλλων αὐτὸν παραδιδόναι· διατί τοῦτο τὸ μύρον οὐκ ἐπράθη τριακοσίων δηναρίων καὶ ἐδόθη πτωχοῖς; εἶπε δὲ τοῦτο οὐχ ὅτι περὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ἔμελεν αὐτῷ, ἀλλ’ ὅτι κλέπτης ἦν, καὶ τὸ γλωσσόκομον εἶχε καὶ τὰ βαλλόμενα ἐβάσταζεν. εἶπεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἄφες αὐτήν, εἰς τὴν ἡμέραν τοῦ ἐνταφιασμοῦ μου τετήρηκεν αὐτό. τοὺς πτωχοὺς γὰρ πάντοτε ἔχετε μεθ’ ἑαυτῶν, ἐμὲ δὲ οὐ πάντοτε ἔχετε.

Ἔγνω οὖν ὄχλος πολὺς ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ὅτι ἐκεῖ ἐστι, καὶ ἦλθον οὐ διὰ τὸν Ἰησοῦν μόνον, ἀλλ’ ἵνα καὶ τὸν Λάζαρον ἴδωσιν ὃν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν. ἐβουλεύσαντο δὲ οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς ἵνα καὶ τὸν Λάζαρον ἀποκτείνωσιν, ὅτι πολλοὶ δι’ αὐτὸν ὑπῆγον τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ ἐπίστευον εἰς τὸν Ἰησοῦν.

Τῇ ἐπαύριον ὄχλος πολὺς ὁ ἐλθὼν εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν, ἀκούσαντες ὅτι ἔρχεται Ἰησοῦς εἰς Ἰεροσόλυμα, ἔλαβον τὰ βαΐα τῶν φοινίκων καὶ ἐξῆλθον εἰς ὑπάντησιν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἔκραζον· ὡσαννά, εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου, ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραήλ. εὑρὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὀνάριον ἐκάθισεν ἐπ’ αὐτό, καθώς ἐστι γεγραμμένον· μὴ φοβοῦ, θύγατερ Σιών· ἰδοὺ ὁ βασιλεύς σου ἔρχεται καθήμενος ἐπὶ πῶλον ὄνου.

Ταῦτα δὲ οὐκ ἔγνωσαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ τὸ πρῶτον, ἀλλ’ ὅτε ἐδοξάσθη ὁ Ἰησοῦς, τότε ἐμνήσθησαν ὅτι ταῦτα ἦν ἐπ’ αὐτῷ γεγραμμένα, καὶ ταῦτα ἐποίησαν αὐτῷ. Ἐμαρτύρει οὖν ὁ ὄχλος ὁ ὢν μετ’ αὐτοῦ ὅτε τὸν Λάζαρον ἐφώνησεν ἐκ τοῦ μνημείου καὶ ἤγειρεν αὐτὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν. διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ὁ ὄχλος, ὅτι ἤκουσαν τοῦτο αὐτὸν πεποιηκέναι τὸ σημεῖον.