

# What wondrous gifts our God has given us!

## The Entrance of Our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem Sunday before Pascha

“Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!”

- + Christ is blessing with His right hand.
- + In His left hand is a scroll, symbolizing that He fulfills the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah Who has come to redeem us from our sins and break the power of death.
- + Just as the bridegroom comes for the wedding not with authority and power, so Christ comes to man, with humility and Great Love.



- + Holy Tradition says that children climbed trees to cut down palm branches.
- + They greet Him, waving the palm branches as a gesture of love.
- + St. Cyril of Alexandria points out that children sang “hosanna” while their fathers shouted “let Him be crucified.” Children threw their garments down for Christ to pass, while their fathers divided Christ’s garments.
- + St. Paul calls us to be childlike, with pure hearts, rejecting evil thoughts.



- + The Jews greet Him crying, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!”
- + The word “Hosanna” means “Save, I pray” or “Save now.”
- + Chief priests and scribes were especially angry at hearing this praise.



- + Christ is seated upon a donkey’s colt as He enters Jerusalem: a fulfillment of prophecy (Zechariah 9:9).
- + This lowly form of transportation is chosen by Christ with humility. Christ is meek and lowly in heart, as He calls us to be.
- + The colt was considered unclean according to the Law.
- + It symbolizes the inclusion of all peoples of all nations in the New Covenant to come through the death and Resurrection of Christ (Isaiah 6, 2:10-11).



## What can we give back?

