

October 23

Commemoration of the Holy Apostle and Hieromartyr Jacob, the Brother of God, First Bishop of Jerusalem

(4th Class)

VESPERS

At "O Lord, to You I call..."

Stichera for Jacob (Tone 4)

6. Come, O wise in God, let us reverently venerate the memory of Jacob, the brother of God: having wholeheartedly taken up the yoke of Christ, he became a herald of the Kingdom and preached the Gospel of His goodness. Then he received the ineffable economy as a deposit in trust. By his merits, O all-powerful God, grant us pardon.
5. Come, O wise in God... (*repeat*)
4. The message of your words has gone forth to the limits of the universe. Through them, we have been enlightened in every type of virtue, guided toward the knowledge of God, toward faith in the Trinity. Thus we entreat you, O Jacob, as a hierarch entreat Jesus, the Lover of Mankind, to save our souls.
3. The message of... (*repeat*)
2. Foreseeing your holy life from afar, Christ, the Lover of Mankind, chose you, O Jacob, as His brother in His foreknowledge, He designated you as the sacred hierarch and chief shepherd of Jerusalem, to celebrate the ineffable Mysteries which He had taught you. Entreat Him now to save our souls.

1. Foreseeing you holy life... (*repeat*)
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 6)

You adorned your priestly vestment with the blood of martyrdom, O holy Apostle, hierarch and martyr. Near the pinnacle of the Temple, you preached that God the Word is the Creator of the universe. Then, the Jews hurled you from that precipice, and you gained the heavenly mansions. Brother of God, holy Jacob, entreat Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion

All my hope I place in you, O Virgin; turn not away from me. Make haste in your goodness to deliver me quickly from the passions which trouble me and assail me each day.

"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Sunday evening.

APOSTICHA (*Tone 8*)

1. O Lord, when Jacob stood by the pinnacle of the Temple, he freely proclaimed You as the Word of God and Creator of the universe, speaking of You as the One who came down to us below. Through his prayers, grant Your light to our souls.
- v. Their voice has gone forth over the whole world, and their words to the limits of the universe.

2. O Lord, when the head of the Apostle Jacob was shattered by the wood, he offered himself to You, the Tree of Life in Paradise. Delivered from this passing world, he rejoices forever. By his prayers, grant peace to Your Churches.
- v. The heavens proclaim the glory of God and the firmament shows forth the work of His hands.
3. O Lord, Your illustrious brother Jacob rejoices for having clearly and courageously confessed that You are the Word, the Son of the Most High God. He covered the hostile blasphemers with shame and silenced them. Having fought the good fight, Lord, he rejoices in Your sight.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon

Being the brother and successor of Christ, the Chief Shepherd, as well as being an eminent apostle, O illustrious Jacob, you were not ashamed to bear witness, and you were satisfied to die for Him. Tirelessly intercede before Him for the salvation of our souls.

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion

O Bride of God, be attentive to the groaning of and humbled heart; O Virgin Mary, all-blameless Mother, do my contrite not reject, but accept the lifting up of my hands in prayer, O pure Virgin who love what is good, that I may sing and magnify the One who has magnified the human race!

TROPARION OF JACOB (*Tone 4*)

As a disciple of the Lord, you received the Gospel, O holy Jacob. As a martyr, you displayed an unyielding will. As a brother of God, you have special power with Him. As a hierarch, you have the right of intercession. Intercede therefore with Christ God that He may save our souls.

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL THEOTOKION (*Tone 4*)

The mystery which was hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels, has been revealed through you, O Theotokos, to those on earth. For God took flesh in a union without commixture, and willingly took up the Cross by which He elevated the first man and saved our souls from death!