

**Menaion: July 20**  
**The Holy Glorious Prophet Elijah (9th c BC)**

**Great Vespers**

Usual Beginning  
Blessed is the Man

Lord I Call      *(tone 1)(to the special melody, 'Joy of the Heavenly Host')*

O all-compassionate Word, Thou didst translate Elijah the Tishbite  
From the earth in a fiery chariot:  
Though his prayers, save us who glorify Thee in faith//↑  
As we celebrate his divine and honored memory in joy! *(2x)*

Elijah, blessed of God,  
Thou didst behold the presence of God which enlightened thee,  
Not in an earthquake, but in a still small voice.  
Thou didst ascend to heaven in a wondrous manner,  
Sitting upon a chariot drawn by four horses:://↑  
Thou hast become wonderful, O God-inspired one!

O wise Elijah, in thy burning zeal for God,  
Thou didst slaughter the priests of confusion with the sword!  
By thy word the heavens were bound  
So that it might not rain upon the earth.  
By giving thy mantle to Elisha//↑  
He grew and was filled with a double portion of divine grace!

*(tone 2)*

Two lights have shone in the universe:  
The bright stars of Elijah and Elisha.  
With a divine word, the one stopped the rain from the heavens,  
Thus convicting the kings.  
He ascended into heaven upon a fiery chariot!  
The other received a double portion of grace.  
He purified the polluted water, and parted the water of the Jordan.  
Now they rejoice with the angels:://↔  
Praying for the salvation of our souls! *(2x)*

Thou wast lifted up into the sky, to the gates of heaven,  
By a fiery chariot, O Elijah the Tishbite.  
The grace of the fire worked a miracle upon thee.  
Although thou wast created in the flesh thou didst not see death,  
That thou mightest preach in all places until the end.//↔  
Therefore, come, and grant us thy correction and instruction!

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O never-setting light of the church!  
O Prophet Elijah, burning with zeal for God!  
Thou didst make the rain cease from heaven;  
Thou wast fed by a raven.  
Thou didst convict kings and wast the cause of the death of priests.  
Thou didst call down fire from heaven.  
Twice thou didst cause the death of fifty men.  
The widow's jar of flour did not give out because of thee,  
Nor did her flask of oil fail.  
Through thy prayers her son wast raised from the dead.  
Thou didst make fire burn the water,  
And didst cause the waters of the Jordan to be turned back.  
Thou didst ascend into heaven in a fiery chariot.  
Elisha received a double portion of thy grace://↔  
Do not cease to intercede for us before God, to save our souls!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. *(tone 6)*

Come, all orthodox people!  
Let us assemble in the holy place:  
The temple in honor of the two prophets inspired by God!  
Let us sing together, giving glory to Christ our God.  
Let us raise our voices and say joyfully:  
'Rejoice, O Elijah of great name:  
O earthly angel and heavenly man,  
Rejoice, O most revered Elisha,  
For thou didst receive double grace from God!  
Rejoice, pillars, champions and physicians of the Christian people!  
Deliver from every obstacle and tribulation//↓  
Those who celebrate your all-glorious feast in faith!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(tone 6)(Dogmatikon/Theotokion)*

Who will not bless thee, O Most Holy Virgin?  
Who will not sing of thy most pure childbearing?  
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,  
But from thee He was ineffably incarnate:  
God by nature, yet man for our sake,  
Not two persons, but one, known in two natures!  
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,//↔  
To have mercy on our souls!

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Entrance

Phos Hilaron

Prokeimenon *(of the day)*

OT Readings

Aposticha *(tone 4)*

He who was sanctified before he was conceived,  
Angelic of body and of flaming intelligence!  
The heavenly man, the herald of the second coming of Christ:  
Glor'ious Elijah, pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone  
Has called lovers of feasts to celebrate his feast in *spirit*!  
Through his intercessions, O Christ God, // ⤴  
Save Thy people from all harm by the deceiver!

*Verse:* Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name!

When Elijah saw with divine wisdom  
That all the people of Israel had departed from the Lord God,  
And were led to the worship of idols,  
He was stirred with zeal!  
He held back the clouds;  
He burned the earth and closed the heavens with a single word, saying:  
'Not a drop shall fall upon the earth without my word!'  
As we celebrate his *memory*, // ⤴  
He grants ineffable grace to those who keep his feast with faith!

*Verse:* Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek!

Thou didst divide the waters of the Jordan, O Elijah  
The seer of ineffable mysteries!  
Thou didst turn the deceits of idols into ashes  
By the lightning of thy divine words.  
Thou didst rebuke the king when he *disobeyed* the law.  
Thou didst kill the priests of iniquity, burning their sacrifice by prayer.  
Quench the flames of our passions and sorrows // ⤴  
By the fire of thine intercessions!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. *(tone 6)*

O Prophet who foretold the coming of Christ,  
Thou art standing at the throne of greatness,  
And art ever present at the side of those who lie in sickness.  
And now, minister of the Highest,  
Blessing the universe, and glorified throughout the world: // ⤵  
Seek forgiveness for our souls!

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Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(tone 6)(Dogmatikon/Theotokion)*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,  
Was born of thee, O most pure Virgin!  
By accepting my nature He freed Adam from his ancient curse!  
Unceasingly we magnify thee as the Mother of God!  
Rejoice, O Celestial Joy!  
Rejoice, O Lady,//↓  
The protection, intercession and salvation of our souls!

Troparion *(tone 4)*

O ven'erable and glor'ious Elijah,  
An angel in the body,  
The pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone,  
The forerunner of the coming of Christ:  
Thou didst send grace from on high to Elisha,  
Dispelling diseases and cleansing lepers,//  
Abounding with healing for those who honor thee!

Theotokion *(tone 4) (Resurrection)*

The mystery of all eternity,  
Unknown even by the angels,  
Through thee, O Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:  
God incarnate, by union without confusion.  
He voluntarily accepted the cross for us,  
By which He resurrected the first-created man,//  
Saving our souls from death.

**Matins**

Kontakion *(tone 2)*

O Prophet and seer of the great works of God,  
Elijah of great name,  
By Thy command thou didst hold back the rains in the clouds!//  
Pray for us to the only Lover of man!