The 20th Day of July

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The Holy and Glorious Prophet Elijah (Elias).

Both the Greek and Slav sources indicate that this is a Six-stichera service with the Octoechos. The All-night Vigil is served in temples dedicated to St. Elijah, or at the discretion of the Superior.

Small Vespers

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4 stichera, in Tone 1: To the melody, "Joy of the ranks of heaven..."
With the divine radiance of the three-fold Sun, and with a pure mind /
Thou didst denounce the impious king as a transgressor of the Law, /
Shut the heavens, and nurtured the widow's son; ///
Pray thou, O prophet, that our souls may be saved.
Rightly, art thou honored as a prophet, /
With gifts of vision and divine understanding, /
For thou didst see things that were afar as though they were near, /
And denounced the iniquities of the king /
And didst slay the shameless priests. ///
Entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!
Unable to bear thy reproach, the impious king said to thee: /
Art thou he that troubles Israel? /
And thou didst say: Not I, O king, but it is thee and all thy father's house
That have forsaken thy God who hath created thee /
And have brought strange gods into Israel. ///
Through the prayers of Thy prophet, O Christ, deliver us from such deception as
      this and save our souls!
Glory..., in Tone 6:
O divine prophet of God, Elijah, /
When denouncing the king for the murder of Naboth, thou didst boldly say: /
Inasmuch as thou hast unjustly slain a man of Israel, shalt thou be slain as well, /
And the dogs shall lick, and the harlots shall wash in thy blood. ///
O deliver us from such a fate as this, /
By the prayers of Thy prophet and favorite, O Christ, ///
And save our souls, for Thou art the Lover of mankind!
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Now and ever..., Theotokion.

At the Aposticha, these stichera in Tone 2: To the melody, "O House of Ephratha...."

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O prophet divine, /
Thou wast zealous for the Lord Almighty, /
And by thy prayers, thou wast able to restrain the heavens, /
That they should not rain upon the earth; ///
Except at the word of thy command.
Verse:
        Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who
         called on His name.
O prophet divine, /
At the word of thy command /
The floodgates of heaven opened again ///
And gave water to the thirsting people.
Verse:
         Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.
O prophet divine, /
Thou didst nourish the widow and her son, /
By thy prayers, increasing the handful of meal and the cruse of oil; ///
And it did not diminish, by the word of the Lord.
Glory..., in the same Tone: (and melody)
O prophet divine, /
By thy prayers thou didst call down the fire from heaven /
And didst compel the king to say: ///
Truly God is the One God preached by Elijah!" /
Now and ever..., Theotokion:
O blessèd Lady, Mother of God, /
Stretch forth thy hands to thy Son, /
The Creator who loveth the souls which He hath made, ///
That He may take pity on us, thy servants.
The Troparion of the Prophet Elijah, in Tone 4:
O angel in the body, /
Pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone, /
Second forerunner of the coming of Christ /
Thou venerable and glorious Elijah, /
Thou didst send grace from on high to Elisha /
To dispel sickness and to purify lepers, ///
O abundant source of healing to those who honor thee.
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Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion in the same Tone:

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The mystery of all eternity / Unknown even by angels / Through thee is revealed on earth, O Mother of God / God incarnate by union without confusion. / For our sake He voluntarily endured the Cross, / By it He resurrected the first-created Adam /// And saved our souls from death.
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Great Vespers

After the Introductory Psalm, "Blessèd is the man...," the first Kathisma.

At "Lord, I call...," 6 stichera:

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3 stichera, in Tone 1: To the melody, "Joy of the ranks of heaven...."
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O most bountiful Word, /

Having translated Elijah the Tishbite from earth in a fiery chariot /

By his <u>pray</u>ers, save us who faithfully <u>glo</u>rify Thee, ///

And joyfully celebrate his divine and saving memory.

Thou wast en<u>light</u>ened, in <u>days</u> of old, /

By beholding the coming of God /

In the <u>quaking</u> of the earth, and in the <u>whi</u>rling wind, /

And in hearing His quiet voice, O Elijah. /

Thou wast a<u>ma</u>zed, being wondrously taken from earth to heaven in a four-horse <u>cha</u>riot, ///

O divinely-in<u>spi</u>red one.

Aflame with divine zeal /

Thou didst slay the shameful priests of Baal; /

And restrained <u>hea</u>ven by a word that it not rain upon the earth; /

And fulfilled thy word to Elisha, O wise Elijah, ///

By the two-fold gift of thy mantle and divine grace.

And 3 stichera, in Tone 2: In the usual melody, the composition of Archbishop John

The radiant Elijah, together with E<u>li</u>sha/

Shone forth as lamps upon the earth. /

For the one stopped the rain by a divine word and denounced the king, /

And in a fiery chariot was borne aloft to heaven; /

While the other received a double <u>ble</u>ssing, /

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Cured the bitterness of childlessness and parted the streams of the Jordan.
Now, rejoicing together with the angels, ///
They both pray that our souls may be saved.
He who granted thee the fiery grace of miracles, /
O Elijah the Tishbite, /
Lifted thee up into the air to heaven in a fiery chariot /
Granting thee incorruption and not to see death until thy proclamation of the end to
      all. ///
Come, therefore, that we may gain by thy direction.
O prophet Elijah, /
Thou never-waning lamp of the Church aflame with zeal divine! /
Thou didst stop the rains of heaven, and wast fed by a raven; /
Denounce the king, and slay the priests of Baal; /
Bring down fire of heaven; and didst slay two companies of fifty men; /
Feed the widow with oil and a handful of meal, /
And by thy prayer, thou didst raise her son from the dead; /
Thou didst kindle fire in the water, and crossed over the Jordan on foot; /
Ascend into heaven in a fiery chariot, /
And didst give Elisha a double blessing: ///
Ceaselessly beseech to God for the salvation of our souls.
Glory..., in Tone 6: the composition of Byzantius
O come, ye assembly of the Orthodox, /
Gathered together in the sacred temple of the prophets, divinely-inspired, /
And in harmony, let us sing hymns to Christ our God Who hath glorified them, /
And with joy and gladness let us cry aloud: /
Rejoice, O earthly angel and heavenly man, /
O Elijah of great renown! /
Rejoice also, O precious Elisha, /
For thou didst receive a double portion of grace from God! /
Rejoice, ye steadfast defenders and intercessors; /
Rejoice, ye physicians of the souls and bodies of the faithful loving Christ! /
Deliver from all the cunning attacks of the enemy and from every misfortune ///
Those who faithfully celebrate your festive memory.
Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in Tone 6:
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, /
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But from thee He was ineffably in<u>carnate</u>; / God by nature, yet <u>man</u> for our sake; / Not two persons, but one in two <u>na</u>tures. / Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessèd <u>La</u>dy /// To have mercy on our souls.

Or Dogmatic Theotokion of a Resurrection service.

The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the day.

Three Readings:

The Reading from the Third Book of Kingdoms (I Kings 17:1-23)

And it came to pass that, ¹Elijah the prophet, the Tishbite of Tishbe of Gilead, said unto Ahab, "As the Lord liveth, the God of hosts, the God of Israel, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years but by the word of my mouth." ²And the word of the Lord came unto Elijah, saying, ³"Get thee hence east-ward and hide thyself by the brook of Cherith that is before Jordan. ⁴And it shall be that thou shalt drink water of the brook, and I will command the ravens to feed thee there." 5So Elijah did according unto the word of the Lord, and he sat by the brook of Cherith before Jordan. ⁶And the ravens brought him bread in the morning and flesh in the evening, and he drank water of the brook. ⁷And it came to pass after a while that the brook dried up because there had been no rain upon the earth. ⁸And the word of the Lord came unto Elijah, saying, 9"Arise and get thee hence to Zarephath of the Sidonian land; behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to maintain thee." ¹⁰And he arose and went up to Zarephath and came unto the gate of the city, and behold, a widow woman was there gathering of sticks. And Elijah

cried after her and said unto her, "Fetch me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." 11 And she went to fetch it, and Elijah cried after her and said, "Bring me a morsel of the bread that is in thine hand." ¹²And the woman said, "As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake but only a handful of meal in the pitcher and a little oil in a cruse. And behold, I go to gather two sticks, and I shall go in and dress it for me and my children, and we shall eat it and die." ¹³And Elijah said unto her, "Be of good courage; go in and do according to thy word, but make me thereof a little cake, and thou shalt bring it out to me first, and thou shalt make some for thee and for thy children last. ¹⁴For Thus saith the Lord: 'The pitcher of meal shall not fail neither shall the cruse of oil be diminished until the day that the Lord giveth rain upon the earth." 15 And the woman went and did so and did eat, she and he and her children. 16And the pitcher of meal failed not, and the cruse of oil was not diminished according to the word of the Lord, which He spake by the hand of Elijah. ¹⁷And it came to pass afterward that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick, and his

sickness was very sore until there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸And she said unto Elijah, "What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? Art thou come into me to bring my sins to remembrance and to slay my son?" ¹⁹And Elijah said unto the woman, "Give me thy son." And he took him out of her bosom and took him up into the chamber wherein he himself abode and laid him upon his own bed. ²⁰And Elijah cried aloud and said, "Alas, O Lord, the witness of the widow with whom I sojourn, Thou hast wrought evil

for her in slaying her son." ²¹And he breathed upon the child three times and called upon the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, let this child's soul come into him again." ²²And it was so; and the child cried out, ²³and he brought him down out of the upper chamber into the house and gave him to his mother, and Elijah said, "See, thy son liveth." ²⁴And the woman said unto Elijah, "Behold, I know that thou art a man of God, and the word of the Lord in thy mouth is true."

The Reading from the Third Book of Kingdoms (I Kings 18:1, 17-40.44, 42, 45-46; 19:1-16)

And it came to pass that, ^{18:1}And it came to pass after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, "Go and appear unto Ahab, and I will give rain upon the face of the earth." ¹⁷And it came to pass when Ahab saw Elijah that Ahab said unto Elijah, "Art thou he that perverteth Israel?" ¹⁸And Elijah said, "I pervert not Israel, but it is thou and thy father's house, in that ye forsake the Lord your God, and thou hast followed Baalim. 19 And now send and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel and the prophets of shame four hundred and fifty and the prophets of the grove four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table." ²⁰And Ahab sent unto all Israel and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. ²¹And Elijah drew nigh unto them all, and Elijah said unto them, "How long will ye halt upon both feet? If the Lord be God, follow Him." And the people answered him not a word. ²²And Elijah said unto the people, "I am left, the only one prophet of the Lord, and Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men,

and the prophets of the grove are four hundred. ²³Let them give us two oxen, and let them choose one for themselves and cut it in pieces and lay it on the wood and put no fire on the wood, and I will dress the other bullock and put on no fire. ²⁴And call ye loudly on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord my God; and it shall be that the God that answereth by fire He is God." And all the people answered and said, "The word that thou hast spoken is good." ²⁵And Elijah said unto the prophets of shame, "Choose you one calf for yourselves and dress it first, for ye are many, and call on the name of your god, but kindle no fire." ²⁶And they took the calf, and they dressed it and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, "Hear us, O Baal, hear us." And there was no voice, neither was there hearing, and they ran up and down upon the altar which they had made. ²⁷And it was noon, and Elijah the Tishbite mocked them and said, "Call with a loud voice for he is a god, for he meditateth, or mayhap he giveth an oracle,

or haply he is asleep and will awake." ²⁸And they cried with a loud voice and cut themselves according to their custom with knives and lancets until the blood gushed out upon them. ²⁹And they prophesied until the evening came, and it came to pass, as it was at the time of the offering of the sacrifice, that Elijah the Tishbite spake unto the prophets of the abominations, saying, "Stand by for the while, and I will offer my sacrifice." And they stood aside and departed. 30 And Elijah said unto the people, "Come near unto me." And all the people came near unto him. ³¹And Elijah took twelve stones according to the number of the tribes of Israel as the Lord spake unto him, saying, "Israel shall be thy name." ³²And he built up the stones in the name of the Lord and repaired the altar that had been broken down, and he made a trench about the altar that would hold two measures of seed. ³³And he piled the cleft wood upon that altar which he had made and divided the whole-burnt offering and laid it on the wood and laid it in order upon the altar and said, "Fetch me four pitchers of water and pour it on the wholeburnt offering and on the wood." And they did so. ³⁴And he said, "Do it the second time." And they did it the second time. And he said, "Do it the third time." And they did it the third time. ³⁵And the water ran round about the altar, and they filled the trench with water. ³⁶And Elijah cried aloud to heaven and said, "Lord God of Abraham and Isaac and Israel, hearken unto me, O Lord; hearken unto me this day by fire, and let all this people know that Thou art the Lord, the God of Israel, and I am Thy servant, and for Thy sake have I done these works. ³⁷Hear me, O Lord,

hear me, and let this people know that Thou art the Lord God, and that Thou hast turned back the heart of this people." ³⁸Then fire fell from the Lord out of heaven and consumed the whole-burnt offerings and the wood and the water that was in the trench, and the fire licked up the stones and the earth. ³⁹And all the people fell on their faces and said, "Verily, the Lord is God; He is God." ⁴⁰And Elijah said unto the people, "Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape." And they took them, and Elijah bringeth them down to the brook Kishon and slew them there. 18:44 And it came to pass that, he said, "Behold, a little cloud like the sole of a man's foot brought water, and he said, "Go up and say unto Ahab, 'Prepare thy chariot and get thee down, lest the rain overtake thee." 18:42 And Ahab went up to eat and to drink, and Elijah went up to Carmel and stooped to the ground and put his face between his knees. ^{18:45}And it came to pass in the mean while that the heaven grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain, and Ahab wept and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁶And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and ran before Ahab to Jezreel. 19:1 And Ahab told Jezebel his wife all that Elijah had done and withal how he had slain the prophets with the sword. ²And Jezebel sent unto Elijah and said, "If thou art Elijah and I am Jezebel, so let God do to me and more also if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow this time." ³And Elijah feared, and he arose and departed for his life, and he cometh to Beer-sheba to the land of Judah and left his servant there. ⁴And he himself went a day's journey into

the wilderness and came and sat down under a juniper tree. And he requested for his life that he might die and said, "Let it be enough now; O Lord, take away my life from me, for I am not better than my fathers." 5And he lay and slept there under a tree, and behold, one touched him and said unto him, "Arise and eat." ⁶And Elijah looked, and behold, there was a cake of meal and a cruse of water, and he arose and did eat and drink and turned and laid him down. ⁷And the angel of the Lord came again the second time and touched him and said unto him, "Arise and eat, because the journey will be too great for thee." 8And he arose and did eat and drink and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto mount Horeb. ⁹And he entered there into a cave and rested there, and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" ¹⁰And Elijah said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord Almighty, for the children of Israel have forsaken Thee; they have digged down Thine altars and have slain Thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life to take it away." 11 And He said, "Thou shalt go forth tomorrow, and shalt stand upon the

mount before the Lord; behold, the Lord will pass by." And behold, a great and strong wind that rent the mountain and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire the voice of a gentle breeze. ¹³And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the cave, and behold, there came a voice unto him and said, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" ¹⁴And Elijah said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord Almighty, because the children of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant and thrown down Thine altars and slain Thy prophets with the sword. And I only am left alone, and they seek my life to take it away." 15 And the Lord said unto him, "Go, return on thy way, and thou shalt come to the way of the wilderness of Damascus, and thou shalt anoint Hazael to be king over Syria; ¹⁶and Jehu, the son of Nimshi, shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha, the son of Shaphat, shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy stead.

The Reading from the Fourth Book of Kingdoms (III Kings 19:19-21; IV Kings 2:1, 6-14)

And it came to pass that, ^{19:19}Elijah depar-ted thence and findeth Elisha, the son of Shaphat, and he was plowing with oxen, twelve yoke before him, and he with the twelve; and he passed by unto him and cast his mantle upon him. ²⁰And Elisha left the cattle and ran after Elijah and said, "I will kiss my father and follow after thee." ²⁰And Elijah said, "Go

back again, for I am done with thee." ²¹And he returned back from following him and took a yoke of oxen and slew them and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose and went after Elijah and ministered unto him. ^{2:1}And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah as it were into

heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah and Elisha went from Gilgal. ^{2:6}And Elijah said unto him, "Tarry here, for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan." And Elisha said, "The Lord liveth, and thy soul liveth, if I will leave thee," and they came to Jordan. ⁷And fifty men of the sons of the prophets also stood over against him afar off, and they both stood by Jordan. ⁸And Elijah took his mantle and wrapped it together and smote the water, and the water was divided hither and thither, and they both went over into a wilderness. ⁹And it came to pass when they were gone over that Elijah said unto Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for thee before I be taken up from thee." And Elisha said, "Let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me." ¹⁰And Elijah said, "Thou hast asked a hard thing for thyself; if thou see me when I am taken up from thee, then it

shall be so unto thee; and if not, it shall not be so." 11 And it came to pass as they went, they walked and talked, and behold: a chariot of fire and horses of fire. And they separated between both, and Elijah was taken up in a whirlwind as it were into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw and cried, "Father, father, the chariot of Israel and the horseman thereof!" And he saw him no more, and he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces. ¹³He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him upon Elisha, and Elisha went back and stood by the bank of Jordan. 14And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and smote the water and said, "Where is the God of Elijah, even He?" And he smote the waters, and they were parted hither and thither, and Elisha went over.

At the Litya, the stichera of the temple and these of the Prophet, in Tone 4: 1

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Thou didst partake of an incorrupt union with God my <u>Sa</u>vior, / And by the power of thy prayer thou didst cross Jordan as if on <u>dry</u> land, / Thou wast <u>taken</u> up into heaven in a <u>chariot</u> of fire, / Leaving behind Elisha with a double <u>portion</u> of grace; / Therefore we beseech thee, O blessèd prophet E<u>lijah</u>, / Though thou art parted from us in the <u>body</u> / Do not separate thyself from us in <u>spirit</u>, /// But ever entreat the Lord that our <u>souls</u> may be saved.
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At the Aposticha, the stichera of the Prophet, in Tone 8: To the melody, "O most glorious wonder...."

Thy wondrous prophet Elijah, O Lord, / His mind illumined by the Light, / Became a partaker of divinity; /

¹ Two other stichera, and the *Doxastichon*, in Tone 6, are not presented here at this time.

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And, beholding the unrighteous command of the king /
Condemned him by the very judgment of God, /
And the merciless and greedy queen /
He also turned over to the judgment of God. /
Through the prayer of Thy prophet, O Christ, ///
Save us in Thy great mercy.
         Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who
Verse:
         called on His name.
"How long, O Lord, will the way of the impious prosper?" /
As thou didst say, O prophet: /
"Thou hast planted, and it has taken root /
And brought forth the fruit of iniquity. /
Truly, these shall perish by their own impiety. /
They shall cry to Thee, but Thou wouldst not hear them. ///
Why hast Thou shown me the iniquity of judges who transgress the law?"
          Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.
Verse:
O great Elijah, /
So honored among the prophets, /
Deliver from sickness, sorrow and from every attack of the enemy /
Those, who celebrate thy divine ascent to heaven /
That we, the Christian people ///
May ever bless and honor thee, O most glorious prophet.
Glory..., Tone 6:
O prophet and preacher of Christ, /
Who prays ceaselessly for the afflicted /
Never departing from before the throne of Majesty, /
O thou, who ministers in the Highest, /
O thou, who blesses all the earth, /
O thou, who art glorified in all places of the universe ///
Pray for the cleansing and salvation of our souls.
Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:
Christ, the Maker, Redeemer, and Lord proceeded from thy womb /
O all-pure Virgin, /
And putting on my nature, set man free from the ancestral curse. /
So we sing to thee without ceasing, O all-pure Virgin, as Mother of God /
With the angelic salutation: /
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Rejoice, O Sovereign <u>Lady</u> ///
Protection, refuge, and salvation of our souls

The Troparion of the Prophet Elijah, in Tone 4:

O angel in the <u>body</u>, /
Pillar of the prophets and their <u>cornerstone</u>, /
Second forerunner of the <u>coming</u> of Christ /
Thou venerable and glorious E<u>lijah</u>, /
Thou didst send grace from on high to E<u>li</u>sha /
To dispel sickness and to purify <u>le</u>pers, ///
O abundant source of healing to those who honor thee.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion in the same Tone:

The mystery of all eternity / Unknown even by angels / Through thee is revealed on earth, O Mother of God / God incarnate by union without confusion. / For our sake He voluntarily endured the Cross, / By it He resurrected the first-created Adam /// And saved our souls from death.

Matins

At "God is the Lord..." the Troparion of the Prophet, in Tone 4: O angel in the <u>body</u> (twice). Glory..., now and ever, the Theotokion, in the same Tone.

After the 1st Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 1:

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Ascending on a fiery chariot, O holy <u>prophet</u>, /
As if on the <u>wings</u> of the wind /
Thou didst <u>make</u> a glorious journey to <u>heaven today ///</u>
Granting Elisha thy mantle and a double portion of grace from on high. (twice)
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Glory..., now and ever, the Theotokion:

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We <u>has</u>ten with love to thy bountiful <u>goodness</u>, /
And we entreat thee, O <u>Mo</u>ther of God, /
For a<u>midst</u> our perils we sinners have thee as our inter<u>ce</u>ssor,
The true Virgin who after giving birth re<u>mained</u> true <u>Virgin</u>, ///
And we strive to acquire salvation through thee, O only pure one.
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After the 2nd Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 3:

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Thy holy shrine, O wondrous <u>prophet</u>, /
Pours abundant healing on all who <u>ho</u>nor thee; /
And so, together with the splendid E<u>li</u>sha, /
Entreat <u>Christ</u> our God /
That He grant <u>peace</u> to the world ///
And great <u>mercy to</u> our souls. (twice)
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Glory..., now and ever, the Theotokion.

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All those who wish to be saved / Rightly seek a place of refuge; / What other shelter have our souls but thee, /// O Theotokos?
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Polyeley and Magnification:

We magnify thee, // O glorious prophet Elijah, / and we venerate thy fiery ascent / in the flesh into heaven.

Selected Psalm verses:

Yea, I would wander afar and would dwell in the wilderness,

My soul thirsts for Thee, my flesh longs for Thee as in a barren, trackless and waterless land.

After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8:

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As a lover of wisdom, /
Thou didst denounce the unrighteous king /
O most hon'rable prophet /
And didst constrain him to cry aloud: /
"Truly, there is but One God /
The One preached by Elijah!" /
And thou didst chastise Jezebel /
For her love of gold and avarice. /
O prophet and forerunner of the coming of Christ, /
Elijah of great renown, /
Entreat Christ God that He grants the remission of sins ///
To those who faithfully honor thy divine ascent to heaven.
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Glory..., now and ever, the Theotokion.

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<u>All</u> generations bless thee, O <u>Virgin</u>, / As she who alone amongst women /
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Gavest birth to <u>God</u> in the <u>flesh</u> without seed; /
For the fire of the Godhead came to <u>dwell</u> in thee /
And with thy milk thou didst feed thy Creator and Lord. /
So, together with the <u>angels</u> we worthily <u>glorify</u> thee, /
And we praise thine All-holy birthgiving, and <u>cry</u> to thee: /
Entreat Christ God that He grants the re<u>mission</u> of sins ///
To those who faithfully honor His All-holy Nativity.

1st Antiphon of the 4th Tone (The Song of Ascents), "From my Youth...."

Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:

Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek! *Verse*: The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool."

Gospel: (14) Luke 4:22-30.

After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel sticheron, in Tone 4:

Thou wast taken up into the clouds in a fiery <u>chariot</u> / And wast translated into the realm of light, O Elijah the <u>Ti</u>shbite! / Thou didst <u>put</u> to shame the <u>prophets</u> of Baal / And restrained the <u>heavens</u> by a word. /// So loose the bonds of our sins by thy <u>prayers</u> to the Lord, /// And save our souls.

The Canon

The Supplicatory Canon of the Theotokos (*Paraklesis*), with 6 Troparia, including the Irmos; and two Canons of the Prophet, with 8 Troparia.

Ode 1 The First Canon of the Prophet, in Tone 2

Irmos: Let us sing to the Lord, who in days of old guided His people into the sea where He drowned Pharaoh and all his host, a song of victory, for He hath been greatly glorified.

Refrain: Holy Prophet of the Lord Elijah, pray to God for us!

Rightly have we gathered today to witness the power of fire-endowed miracles of Elijah, his honored words, and the strength of his spirit.

O God-bearing Elijah, open our feeble lips and enable our unworthy tongue through the power of the Spirit that is within thee, that we may learn to glorify thy wonders.

Thou dost grant to those who submit to Thee, through the ineffable will of Thy Spirit,

O Word, power beyond the laws of nature to command, by a word, the very gates of the rains of heaven.

Refrain: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Theotokion: We sing to the Lord who was born of the Virgin thus renewing the world, and who, for her sake, hath bestowed upon us life divine, a song of victory, for He hath been greatly glorified.

The Second Canon of the Prophet in Tone 8

with the acrostic, "I sing the praises of great Elijah," the composition of Pachomius.

Irmos: Having crossed the water as though it were dry land and escaped from the wickedness of the Egyptians, the children of Israel cried aloud: Let us sing to our Redeemer and our God.

Thou art like a divine psaltery, O most wondrous prophet, singing the praises to the omniscient God who rewardeth all according to their deeds.

O wondrous prophet, unable to endure vainglory, thou didst expose the unrighteous king and his lawless deeds, and didst thereby impose the wrathful judgment of God upon him.

Glory...,

O divine Elijah, prophet, and forerunner of grace, as thou didst denounce Ahab, the unrighteous king, so thou didst condemn the shameful priests of Baal.

Now and ever...,

Theotokion: Let us all hasten, O ye faithful, to worthily offer hymns of praise to the Mother of Christ, for she gave birth to the Master of life and death, the Savior of us all.

Katavasia: I shall open my mouth....

Ode 3 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: On the rock of faith Thou hast established me, and Thou hast opened wide my mouth against mine enemies. For my spirit hast rejoiced in singing: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord.

The One who by His own good will sustaineth all creation, hath prepared for thee a feast and by a raven, sent it to thee, as to thee, O chosen guest. To Him then let us cry: None is holy save Thee, O Lord.

We lift our thanks to the Benefactor and Maker of all who, in His ineffable providence, nourished both the widow and the prophet; and to Him then do we cry: None is holy

save Thee, O Lord.

O thou, who didst stay the clouds from rain, didst, at Zarephath, increase the widow's meager flour and oil so that she had food every day, and thou didst cry: None is holy save Thee, O Lord.

Theotokion: Thou alone surpasseth all from before all ages, for thou alone, beyond all nature, didst receive the uncontainable God of all creation within thy womb, and gave Him flesh from thee. Therefore, we all honor thee, O Theotokos.

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: O Lord, Creator of the vault of heaven and founder of the Church, strengthen me in Thy love, for Thou art our supreme desire and the support of the faithful.

Thou givest merciful instruction, and takest pity upon all who come to thy shrine in faith, for in seeking thine aid, do no wrong.

Thou didst chastise the unrighteous Ahab, O divine prophet, and didst condemn him as a transgressor of the Law by the judgment of God.

The shameless queen Jezebel sought to slay thee, O divine prophet, though rightly didst thou condemn her shameful priests to death.

Theotokion: We praise thee, O Lady, as the mystical dwelling place of divine glory, and the altar table, O pure one, which held Christ, the Bread of life.

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The Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8: To the melody: "Of Wisdom...."
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Come, all ye faithful, and let us sing the praises of Elijah the <u>Ti</u>shbite, /

The source of wonders, and confirmation of the prophets, /

Who yet in the body, received immortality /

And in death, assures us of the resur<u>re</u>ction from the dead! /

Therefore having great boldness before God, /

He grants healing to all who ask for it in faith; ///

And earnestly prays Christ to grant remission of sins to all who lovingly celebrate his memory. (twice)

Glory..., now and ever, the Theotokion.

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Being assailed by the devious attacks of mine enemies, / Both visible and invisible, / I am caught in the tempest of my many sins / And I flee to the haven of thy goodness, O pure one, / Seeking the protection of thy fervent intercessions. /
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Therefore, earnestly beseech Him who took <u>flesh</u> from <u>thee</u> without seed, / Entreating Him to grant the re<u>mission</u> of sins, ///
To us, thy servants, who worthily sing thy praises.

Ode 4 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: I have heard the report of Thy dispensation, O Lord, and I glorify Thee, O only Lover of mankind.

Thou, O wise prophet, wast truly revealed as the uprooter of evil and the planter of the virtues. Therefore we bless thee.

Blaming thee for the death of her son, O prophet, the widow who fed thee was assured that he would be brought back from the dead.

By crying out three times, thou didst demonstrate the glory of the Trinity, handing the child alive back to his mother.

Behold the flaming ardor of thy divine zeal, O prophet, while denouncing the lawless king!

Theotokion: We entreat thee, O pure one who didst conceive God without seed, ever to pray for us, thy servants.

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: I have heard the report of Thee, O Lord, and was afraid, and as Thou art the pre-eternal God who ineffably came forth from the Virgin, I cry to Thee: Glory to Thy condescension and power, O Christ.

The Lord, crowned thee, O wise one, as a prophet, granting thee the grace to foretell the things which were to be as if it were today. Beholding now the fulfillment of thy words, we ever bless and praise thee, O prophet most-true.

As the soul of thy prophet, O Christ God was adorned with great humility, so was the ardor of his zeal enflamed as he condemned the shameful priests.

Standing now before the countenance of Christ, thy face shineth forth with His reflected glory, O most wondrous prophet. Mercifully, come to us and visit, that all may bless and praise thee, O prophet true.

Theotokion: We have acquired thee as our hope and confirmation, and our impregnable rampart of salvation, through which we are delivered from all evil, O all-praised Lady.

Ode 5 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: O Lord, the Giver of light and Creator of the ages, guide us in the light of Thy commandments, for we know no other God save Thee.

The Law of thy fathers itself hast revealed thee as a true man of prayer, O venerable wonderworker Elijah, for thou didst command the laws of nature and kindled the fire of sacrifice drenched in water.

Being a true minister of God, thou didst utterly shame the priests of wickedness, O venerable and all glorious prophet Elijah, clearly displaying the power of the Trinity.

Aflame with zeal, O Elijah, thou didst slay, with thine innocent hands, the priests of wickedness by uttering a single word of priestly grace.

Theotokion: To thee, who gave birth to Christ, the Creator of all we cry: Rejoice, O pure one! Rejoice, who made the Light to shine on us! Rejoice, thou who didst contain the uncontainable God!

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Why hast Thou cast me away from Thy face, O never setting Light? Why has this dismal darkness covered me, the wretched one? Guide me in return to the light of Thy commandments, I pray Thee.

Thou, O Elijah upon whom the never-waning Light of divine grace hath shone, hast diligently summoned all the pious to song.

Who cannot but marvel at thy divine zeal, O most honored prophet? And who cannot but praise Christ who hath granted thee such strength.

Thou didst receive the gift of prophecy by God, O wondrous Elijah, and uniting thyself wholly to Him, thou didst lead the Israelites to the knowledge of God.

Theotokion: O Theotokos, thou who gavest birth to the never-setting Sun, enlighten thou me, who am wholly engulfed in the darkness of passions, and fill me with the light divine.

Ode 6 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: The final abyss of sin hath encompassed me, O Lord; but bring my life out from corruption, as Thou didst the prophet Jonah, O Lord.

Thou art a pillar of piety, a tower of wholesome life, an example of purity, and an emulator of the angels, O wondrous and God-bearing Elijah.

Jezebel's murderous wrath provoked thee to flee, thou who had the power command and loose the rains, O wondrous Elijah.

Having bent thy knees, thou didst raise on high thy mind's eye, and by thine earnest prayer didst cause the furrows of the earth to be watered by the rain.

Theotokion: The bush upon Mount Sinai that was unburnt by the consuming fire prefigured thee, O Ever-virgin Mother Mary, and all-praised Theotokos.

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Cleanse me, O Savior, for many are my transgressions, and lead me from the depths of evil, I pray Thee, and I cry: Hear me, O God of my salvation.

Offer unto God these hymns of supplication on behalf of all who come to thy holy shrine and honor thee as their earnest intercessor, O all-honored prophet.

Our feeble minds are not able to comprehend or worthily praise thy life, O prophet, for thou didst surpass all the mystical ranks by beholding the Transfiguration of Christ.

He that is the Creator and the Lord of all hath appeared to us in accordance with thy prophecy, O blessèd Elijah, bringing all men to know Him, for He is the Lover of mankind.

Theotokion: O most pure Mary, thou pure vessel of virginity, cleanse my mind of gloomy passions and fill my heart with righteousness and grace.

The Kontakion of the Prophet, in Tone 2

O <u>prophet</u> who foresaw the great <u>acts</u> of God / Elijah of <u>great</u> renown, / Who with a <u>word</u> didst stop the <u>flow</u> of rain; /// Intercede with Him who alone lovest mankind.

Ikos: The prophet Elijah was troubled and angered as he beheld the many transgressions of man and saw the great love of God for mankind; and moved with wrath he cried to the Merciful One: "Be Thou angered against them that deny Thee, O righteous Judge!" But he did not sway the compassion of the Good Lord to smite them that denied Him, for He that alone loveth mankind ever awaits the repentance of all mankind.

Ode 7 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: The fiery bush upon the mountain and the Chaldean furnace drenched with dew clearly prefigured thee, O Bride of God. For in a material womb, unconsumed thou hast received the divine and immaterial fire. Therefore we cry aloud unto Him who was born of thee: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Armed with divine power and having fortified thyself with food that sustained thee for forty day, thou didst embark on a long journey, O wondrous Elijah, and on Mt Horeb thou didst cry: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

It was not the tempest, nor the earthquake, nor the fearsome fire, that revealed the Lord to thee, but the mild and gentle wind, O Elijah, thou zealot for the Almighty.

Therefore, to the mild and gentle Jesus thou didst cry: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Like the great Moses thou wast granted the gift of prophecy and the vision of God, O wondrous Elijah; thou didst anoint both prophets and kings with Spirit; and having beheld the glory of Christ upon Mount Tabor thou didst cry: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Theotokion: Thou gavest birth ineffably and beyond all nature without seed to the unoriginate and pre-eternal Lord, the Son, the Power and the Wisdom of the Father, O pure one, for the regeneration of all mankind. Therefore, we cry to Him who wast born of thee: Blessèd is the God of our fathers!

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: The children of Judæa who dwelt of old in Babylon trampled underfoot the flames in the furnace by their faith in the Trinity, as they sang: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

By thy word, the captain and his fifty who came to thee were consumed by the fire that came down from heaven, O blessèd Elijah.

Being worthily enlightened with a vision of God, O most honored prophet, thou didst straightway put an end to the sacrifices made to Baal.

Being given the gift of prophecy by the Spirit, O most honored prophet Elijah, thou didst foretell the coming of the Son of God and didst not sin, O all-blessèd one. To Him, then, do we cry: Blessèd is the God of our fathers!

By the righteous judgment of God, the hand of the prophet rightly poisoned the unrighteous priests, sitting at the table of Jezebel.

Theotokion: Save me, O Mother of God, for I am held captive in the depths by my sins, and rescue me from all the evils of mine enemies, that being saved, I may glorify thine intercession.

Ode 8 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: The unrelenting flames became afraid of the godly children as their spirits and their bodies were not consumed by them, contrary to all natural law; and as the living flames began to die away, they heard being sung the eternal song: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Rightly did Ahab deserve as retribution, the destruction of all his house through the prophet's condemnation of his vile act of murder. And the Tishbite, with his mind aflame with zeal, cried to the Giver of life: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, praise and exalt Him throughout all ages!

Twice hath the fire rained down from heaven at thy command, O Elijah, twice

consuming the captains and each of their fifty, for truly, thou art the chosen servitor of God; and to Him, the bestower of everlasting life thou didst cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, praise and exalt Him throughout all ages!

On Mount Tabor hath Christ hath revealed thee as an initiate of the mystery of His divine incarnation, O shining example of purity, O model of virginity, and true reflection of the divine and unapproachable Light that shone upon thee, as thou didst cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, praise and exalt Him throughout all ages!

Theotokion: Most spacious was the womb of the Mother of God, for it received the Word in the frailty of its flesh and wrought therein the earthly hypostasis, the very city of God, wherein the Most High came to dwell. To Him now, do we cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, praise and exalt Him throughout all ages!

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: The King of heaven whom the hosts of angels praise, let us praise and exalt throughout all ages.

God, who knoweth all things, hath entrusted to thee the knowledge of all the things that are to come, O faithful Elijah, and revealed to thee the things that are afar as though they were near.

Having fortified thy mind with pious boldness, O blessèd one, thou dost foretell of things far off, as though they were near at hand, O most honored prophet.

Having cleansed thy mind from all defilement, O divine prophet, thou didst truly acquire holiness, guiding all to the light of divinity.

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Theotokion: Entreat the Word, whom thou hast ineffably borne, O pure one, on behalf of all who faithfully honor thee, O Theotokos.

We praise, bless, and worship the Lord singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

Katavasia.

Ode 9 First Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: O blessèd and most pure Theotokos, who, ineffable gave birth in the flesh to God, the Light which shone forth before the Sun, from thy virginal womb: we magnify, O Theotokos!

Having completed his course here on earth, the Tishbite, having spread out his mantle, crossed over the Jordan and made a wondrous ascent into heaven through the air.

The Tishbite, aflame with pious zeal, was taken up in a fiery chariot and he dropped his

mantle so that Elisha, putting it on, might delight in receiving divine grace.

The Tishbite together with Moses, the God-seer, beheld on Mount Tabor the revelation that the eyes of mortals had never seen, nor the ears had ever heard, not their hearts perceived—the Incarnate Lord Almighty.

Theotokion: O Theotokos, thou didst annul the ancient curse of Eve and art source of our reconciliation with our Creator and our God, and we magnify thee.

Second Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Saved through thee, O pure Virgin, we confess thee to be truly Theotokos, and with the choirs of angels we magnify thee.

Thou hast been deified by the immaterial splendor of the Life-creating Trinity, O prophet Elijah, and we all know thee as the intercessor for the world before God, O blessèd one.

Thou art known on earth as an angel, O blessèd prophet, and in heaven as a man of God: for the Lord Himself hath told thee: "Thou Elijah, art an austere man who cannot abide the transgressions of Israel. Come then unto Me, so that I may, in time, descend.

Thou, O blessèd prophet, didst dwell on earth as a bodiless angel, and now, borne aloft to heaven, thou dost abide with the choirs of angels, ever watching over us who praise thee, O blessèd one.

Theotokion: **B**earing in thine arms God who bearest all things, thou dost nourish the Nourisher of all, O most pure one, who chose to become like unto us. Beseech thou Him, that He may deliver us, thy people, from every evil.

Exapostilarion of the Prophet:

The brilliant light of the fiery chariot drawn by four steeds that carried thee, victorious, to heaven, did not consume thee, O Elijah, for with thy fiery tongue didst thou command fire to come down from heaven, and didst empty the clouds of all their rain. (twice)

Glory...,

Thou didst ascend upon a fiery chariot to the circles of heaven, O Elijah; and now, gazing down upon us in the presence of the Light, send mystical enlightenment down upon us who faithfully celebrate thy holy memory.

Now and ever..., Theotokion:

As thou art the source of all the blessings bestowed by God on the world, do thou, O

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Theotokos, entreat the gracious God for the salvation of all.

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On the Praises, 6 stichera,
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3 stichera in Tone 8: To the melody: "What shall we call thee...."
Uniting thyself to God through thy purity of life and virtue /
Thou didst receive power over the elements of nature, /
O wondrous prophet; /
Thou didst mystically behold creation, /
And, by thy will, stopped the portals of rain, /
Thou didst call fire down from heaven, /
And didst destroy the enemy. ///
Pray now that our souls may be saved.
Aflame with the zeal for the Lord /
Thou didst indict the transgressing king
And slay the shameless priests of Baal,
Thou didst kindle fire amidst the water, /
And provide food from a handful of meal, /
And with thy mantle, parted the Jordan. ///
Pray now that our souls may be saved.
Thou didst live thy life on earth as if in heaven /
Enriched by the Exiting One living in thee, /
O blessèd prophet, /
And when, by thy breath, thou didst raise the boy from the dead /
Death itself stood apart from thee /
And in a chariot of fire thou didst ascend into heaven. ///
Pray now that our souls may be saved.
And 3 stichera in Tone 1: the composition of Germanus
O zealous Elijah, /
Thou initiate of the mysteries, /
Thou master over passions, and herald of the salvation of all! /
Thou art taken up into heaven today. /
Oh, the glory, thou hast earned, O traveler to on High, /
Thou adornment of the prophets! /
Thou hast shown thyself to be an angel in the body /
And through thine instruction, a heavenly man! /
So praising thee, let us cry aloud: ///
Help us, O wise one, on the Day of Judgment.
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Come, and with spiritual hymns let us praise the <u>prophets</u> of Christ, /
Elijah the Tishbite, who travelled to heaven, /
And Elisha, who through Elijah's mantle received a double portion of the grace of
      God. /
Truly, they shine as radiant <u>lights</u> unto <u>all</u> the world ///
And they ceaselessly pray for our souls.
Let us, like David, sing songs of <u>praise</u> today, /
And let us honor the zealous prophet of the Lord, /
Elijah the Tishbite, /
For behold, he restrained the heavens by a word, /
And made barren the fertile earth: /
O most glorious wonder, /
A man on earth forbids the <u>heavens</u> to rain! /
O wonder, a mortal man puts on incorruption, /
And ascends to heaven in a fiery chariot! /
With his mantle, he bestows upon Elisha a double portion of grace, /
Condemns the king and punishes the disobedient people with famine, /
Slays the shameful priests and by a word, and raises the son of the widow from death. /
Through his prayers, preserve all Orthodox Christians O Christ God, ///
Granting them victories over their adversaries.
Glory..., in Tone 8:
Come, all ye faithful, /
And let us honor the leaders of the prophets /
Elijah and Elisha, /
Who shone as radiant lights unto all the world, /
And let us joyfully cry to Christ our God: /
Through prayers of thy prophets, O compassionate Lord, ///
Grant Thy people remission of sins and great mercy.
Now and ever..., Theotokion:
Accept, O Sovereign Lady /
The prayers of us, thy servants, ///
And deliver us from every danger and necessity.
The Great Doxology and the Troparion to the Saint, in Tone 4:
O angel in the body, /
Pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone, /
Second forerunner of the coming of Christ /
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Thou venerable and glorious E<u>lijah</u>, /
Thou didst send grace from on high to E<u>li</u>sha /
To dispel sickness and to purify <u>le</u>pers, ///
O abundant source of healing to those who honor thee.

The usual Litanies and the Dismissal.

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from Third Ode of the first Canon of the Prophet, and 4 from the Sixth Ode of the second Canon.

- **1.** The One who by His own good will sustaineth all creation, hath prepared for thee a feast and by a raven, sent it to thee, as to thee, O chosen guest. To Him then let us cry: None is holy save the, O Lord.
- **2.** We lift our thanks to the Benefactor and Maker of all who, in His ineffable providence, nourished both the widow and the prophet; and to Him then do we cry: None is holy save the, O Lord.
- **3.** O thou, who didst stay the clouds from rain, didst, at Zarephath, increase the widow's meager flour and oil so that she had food every day, and thou didst cry: None is holy save the, O Lord.
- **4.** *Theotokion:* Thou alone surpasseth all from before all ages, for thou alone, beyond all nature, didst receive the uncontainable God of all creation within thy womb, and gave Him flesh from thee. Therefore, we all honor thee, O Theotokos.
- **5.** Offer unto God these hymns of supplication on behalf of all who come to thy holy shrine and honor thee as their earnest intercessor, O all-honored prophet.
- **6.** Our feeble minds are not able to comprehend or worthily praise thy life, O prophet, for thou didst surpass all the mystical ranks by beholding the Transfiguration of Christ.
- 7. He that is the Creator and the Lord of all hath appeared to us in accordance with thy prophecy, O blessèd Elijah, bringing all men to know Him, for He is the Lover of mankind.
- **8.** *Theotokion:* **O** most pure Mary, thou pure vessel of virginity, cleanse my mind of gloomy passions and fill my heart with righteousness and grace.

The Troparion of the Prophet Elijah, in Tone 4:

O angel in the <u>body</u>, /
Pillar of the prophets and their <u>cornerstone</u>, /
Second forerunner of the <u>coming</u> of Christ /
Thou venerable and glorious E<u>lijah</u>, /

Thou didst send grace from on high to E<u>li</u>sha / To dispel sickness and to purify <u>le</u>pers, /// O abundant source of healing to those who <u>ho</u>nor thee.

The Kontakion of the Prophet, in Tone 2

O prophet who foresaw the great <u>acts</u> of God / Elijah of <u>great</u> renown, / Who with a <u>word</u> didst stop the <u>flow</u> of rain; /// Intercede with Him who alone lovest mankind.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4: Thou art a priest forever / after the order of Melchizedek! *Verse:* The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool."

The Epistle: (57) 1 James 5:10-20

The Alleluia, Tone 1: The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints! *Verse:* God is glorified in the council of the saints!

The Gospel: (14) Luke 4:22-30

The Communion Hymn: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.

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