



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

JUNE 29, 2025

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

917 Pond Road, Loudon, TN 37774
865-986-2390

www.episcopalloudon.com
#episcopalloudon



GOOD MORNING!

GLORIFYING GOD BY

REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today.

Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the *first time* (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. And let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from the *Hymnal 1982*, the blue books in the pew rack. A hymn noted "S-xxx" is part of the service music, found at the front of the hymnal, appearing before the regular congregational hymns begin. For example, S-278 is found before hymn 1.

To learn more about Resurrection, check out www.episcopalloudon.com, email us at office@episcopalloudon.com, or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a pew card or email office@episcopalloudon.com to be placed on the weekly email, *Parish Tidings*, for the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook:
facebook.com/episcopalloudon.



Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Prelude *(only at 10:30)*

Now thank we all our God

(Johann Crüger)

Entrance Hymn *(only at 10:30)*

God of the prophets (Verses 1, 2, and 5)

Hymnal 359

All standing

BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Gloria *(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)*

Hymnal S-278

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Lector A reading from the Book of Kings

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, “Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?” When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lector We will read the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 1 I will cry aloud to God; *
I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.
- 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; *
**my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;
I refused to be comforted.**
- 11 I will remember the works of the Lord, *
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
- 12 I will meditate on all your acts *
and ponder your mighty deeds.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy; *
who is so great a god as our God?
- 14 You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.
- 15 By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.
- 17 The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;
- 18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was in the sea, and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

The Second Lesson: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment,

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (*only at 10:30*)

O day of peace that dimly shines (verse 1)

Hymnal 597

All stand

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 9:51-62

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn (*only at 10:30*)

O day of peace that dimly shines (verse 2)

Hymnal 597

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please assume a posture of prayer, whether standing, sitting, or kneeling as able.
Please add those intercessions and thanksgivings on your heart, silently or
aloud, at the appropriate points in the prayers.*

Lector:

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Sean; our Diocesan Bishop, Brian; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations;
and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially **Becca H.; Robyn; Dave M.; Rosemary O.; the LaPointe family; Shelly; Tenia; Kathleen; Jim; Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian; and all your children who suffer the effects of war, oppression, or natural disasters.**

Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.
Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

Celebrant

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

*Please note: Continuing in a posture of prayer we will hold a moment of silence
for individual, silent confessions before the priest leads us into the words of confession.*

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

Standing as you are able.

Celebrant May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2a*

Offertory Anthem *(sung by the choir)*

Taize selections, various

The Celebrant invites the people's offerings.

Doxology *(only at 10:30)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

Celebrant For all things come from you, O Lord;
People **and of your own have we given you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

*From Enriching Our Worship, The Standing Liturgical Commission of
the Episcopal Church: New York: Church Publishing, 1997*

Sursum Corda (Lift up your Hearts)

Hymnal S-120

(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)

Celebrant The Lord be with you,
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Sanctus *(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)*

Hymnal S-125

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and

in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.** (*Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Hymn (*Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

Hymnal S-161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel comfortable. Remain seated, until the usher directs you forward to the communion rail. After receiving communion, return to your seat by the side aisle. so that traffic flows one way.

If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so. If you prefer not to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you prefer a blessing.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Communion Hymn

O Master, let me walk with thee

Hymnal 660

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements | Blessings of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

Post communion Hymn *(only at 10:30)*

I sing the almighty power of God

Hymnal 398

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude *(only at 10:30)*

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

ASSAM

Parish Announcements, Prayers, & Thanksgivings

**Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Terry & Don Hennes
by Jen & Mark Hennes**

Office Closed on July 4

The office will be closed on Friday, July 4.

Saints & Sinners

Time to sign up and get to know a new small group of folks a little better!

Saints and Sinners is a “supper club”, with small groups whose members take turns hosting a meal, with the host providing the entrée & beverages and the others providing the rest of the meal. Sharing meals is a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners better, so we hope you’ll sign up and join us!

Questions? Contact Jenny Lucas at 662-588-4857 or jslucas_2000@yahoo.com. Please sign up in the Parish Hall before July 27.

CADES COVE SUNRISE HIKE AUGUST 12-13

The hiking ministry is sponsoring our annual sunrise hike in Cades Cove. We’ll overnight in Townsend on Tuesday, August 12, get up before dawn on Wednesday, August 13 and enjoy a Vehicle Free Morning (cars not allowed) in Cades Cove. You’ll see plenty of wildlife and a sunrise that stretches across a never ending sky. You can choose a 4 mile, 7 mile or 11 mile loop.

Contact Andy Hadjian 865-235-8457. Sign up in Parish Hall.

Our Parish Prayer List

Becca H.; Robyn; Dave M.; Rosemary O.;
the LaPointe family; Shelly; Tenia; Kathleen; Jim;
Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian

Our Parish Prayer List

(continued)

Continuing Prayers for:

the Hentchel family; Pat; Claire; Sandy;
Rob & Sherry; Cheri; Jane; Shannon; Jim; Mel;
Wayne; Diana N.; Jack; Ashley; Raynella; Ed & Jean;
Kim E.; Joe; Beverly; Grace; Virginia; Betty Anne;
Janey; Johnny; and Karen H.

For our Vestry leaders:

Class of 2025: Lisa A., Donna B., Diane V.K.
Class of 2026: Drew H., Dawson H., Jenny L.
Class of 2027: Bev B., Karen B., Mark H.
Officers: Jenny L., Diane V.K., Dawson H., Sally L.

Also for the Diocesan Prayer List:

The Worldwide Anglican Communion
For Guidance, BCP 832

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 24	Tony Adams
June 25	Kathleen Bailey
June 25	Donna & Carl Bye
June 27	Danielle Ledyard
July 3	Lisa Amelse & Keith Brinkley
July 3	Judy & Andy Hadjian
July 4	Pam & John McCoy
July 5	Bill Schwindt
July 5	Mark Smith
July 6	Keytha Graves & Drew Hawley
July 16	Ginny Tolbert
July 17	Judy Hadjian
July 17	Judy Kubesh
July 20	Mark Hennes
July 20	Pam McCoy
July 23	Beverly Cantine
July 25	Monty Ross
July 26	Janey Coombes
July 29	Nelda Griffith & Steve Abercrombie
July 31	Thomas Fiebke, Jr.

For Your Calendars

THIS WEEK

June 29	8:00 am	10:30 am	
Acolyte	Holly Pate	Dawson Hope	Altar Guild: Janey Coombes & Judy Egan
EM	Mark Hennes	Jackie Buttinelli	Flower Guild: Judy Hadjian
Lectors	Jerry Ploeger & Mark Hennes	Monty Ross & Bill Perry	Organist: Judy Moyer
Ushers	Carl Bye	Andy Hadjian & Dave Baumgardner	Celebrant & Preacher: Rebecca Bridges
Chancellor	Carl Bye	Jenny Lucas	Monday Volunteer (6/30)
Coffee Hour	Donna Bye	Ginny Tolbert	Donna Bye
Video	n/a	Mark Blakley	
Counters	n/a	Andy Hadjian & Jean Cardwell	

NEXT WEEK

July 6	8:00 am	10:30 am	
Acolyte	Judy Hadjian	Monty Ross	Altar Guild: Kathleen Bailey
EM	Andrew Wilkinson	Judy Egan	Flower Guild: Rosemary Kitts
Lectors	Mark Hennes	Dawson Hope	Organist: Judy Moyer
Ushers	Jen Hennes	David Baumgardner	Celebrant & Preacher: Rebecca Bridges
Chancellor	Holly Pate	David Baumgardner	Monday Volunteer (7/7)
Coffee Hour	Peggy Rogers	Jenny Lucas	Donna Bye
Video	n/a	Bob Cantine	
Counters	n/a	Alice Anderson & Dave St. John	

Next Week at Resurrection

Monday, June 30
7:00 p.m. - AA (open meeting)

Tuesday, July 1
1:00 p.m. - Memorial Garden Committee

Wednesday, July 2
9:00 a.m. - Deadline for Parish Tidings or bulletin submissions

Thursday, July 3
9:00 a.m. Prayers & Squares (Parish Hall)

Friday, July 4
OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day

Sunday, July 6
8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II
10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II

COMING UP ...

Sunday, July 13
Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II
Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II

Monday, July 14
Vestry Meeting

**Check your Parish Tidings
for upcoming details!**

Contact our priest, the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges,
at this email: rector@episcopalloudon.com.

Email office@episcopalloudon.com by Wednesday
at 9 a.m. to have your ministry or committee's
activities added to the parish calendar.

TODAY'S ART



Elijah Went Up by a Whirlwind into Heaven (1985)
Shlomo Katz, Polish-Israeli Artist (1937-1992)
On display at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO.

Public domain

Lining the curved walls of the Jewish Chapel at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs is a series of nine biblical paintings by Polish Israeli artist Shlomo Katz, commissioned by the Falcon Foundation in 1985. Elijah Went Up by a Whirlwind into Heaven is one of three Katz

made on the theme of 'flight', a subtle nod to the aerospace branch of military service of the cadets who worship in this sacred space.

The painting should be read clockwise from the bottom right, following the dynamic movement from earthbound thistle patch to open sky and beyond. Elisha, dressed in blue and wearing a kippah, stands with one foot on the ground and the other raised in rapture, his left hand reaching out for his master Elijah's mantle. Though it would have been a heavier garment that was probably made of sheepskin, Katz renders the mantle as a translucent red swathe of material that spirals around Elijah's body, accentuating his graceful, balletic form. He is weightless, no longer subject to gravity, it seems, as he twists toward the wispy tongues of flame that form the shape of two galloping horses with a cloaked rider—a celestial cavalry. Flying like a dancer on some grand stage, he who was wrapped in God's authority now sheds that symbolic wrapping, transferring it to his successor. That the mantle matches the colour of the chariot underscores its divine power.

All this takes place over the desert hills of Israel, with the Jordan flowing through them. In the middle right background is a hill with terraced fields and houses representing Jericho, the last city to which Elijah and Elisha traveled together. The perspective is nonlinear, emphasizing the spiritual dimension of the narrative. Persian, Turkish, and Indian miniature painting as well as Byzantine icons are among Katz's aesthetic influences.

Katz has captured here that propulsive moment when God's prophet enters eternity, passing his mantle on to the next generation.

References

<https://thevcs.org/elijahs-ascent#dancing-toward-glory>

Katz, Shlomo. 1993. *The Way of an Eagle in the Air: The Paintings of Shlomo Katz at the United States Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel* (San Anselmo: Stuart Allen Books)