

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

ELIJAH, Op. 70

Eastman Philharmonia
Eastman-Rochester Chorus
Eastman Chorale

Joshua Conyers, *baritone*
William Weinert, *conductor*

Friday, May 1, 2026
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre
7:30 PM



Eastman School of Music

~ PROGRAM ~

Elijah, Op. 70 (1846-47)

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
(1809-1847)
120'

Joshua Conyers, *baritone* (Elijah)

PART I

The Drought

Introduction. As God the Lord (*Elijah*)

Overture

1. Chorus. Help, Lord!
2. Duet (*Soprano and Alto*) with Chorus. Lord, bow thine ear
3. Recitative (*Tenor*). Ye people, rend your hearts
4. Aria (*Tenor*). If with all your hearts
5. Chorus. Yet doth the Lord
6. Recitative (*Alto*). Elijah, get thee hence
7. Double Quartet. For He shall give His angels

Elijah Saves the Widow's Son

7A. Recitative (*Alto*). Now Cherith's brook

8. Recitative (*Soprano*). What have I to do with thee

Recitative (*Elijah*). Give me thy son

9. Chorus. Blessed are the men who fear Him

Elijah Confronts the Priests of Baal

10. Recitative (*Elijah*) with Chorus. As God the Lord of Sabaoth

11. Chorus. Baal, we cry to thee

12. Recitative (*Elijah*). Call him louder!

Chorus. Hear our cry, O Baal!

13. Recitative (*Elijah*). Call him louder!

Chorus. Baal! Baal!

14. Recitative and Air (*Elijah*). Draw near, all ye people

15. Chorus. Cast thy burden upon the Lord (Chorale)

16. Recitative (*Elijah*). O Thou, who makest thine angels spirits

Chorus. The fire descends

17. Aria (*Elijah*). Is not His word like a fire?

18. Arioso (*Alto*). Woe unto them who forsake Him!

Elijah Prays for Rain

19. Recitative (*Tenor*). O man of God, help thy people!

19A. Recitative (*Elijah*) with Chorus. O Lord, Thou has
overthrown thine enemies

20. Chorus. Thanks be to God!

Duet (No. 2)

Marlena St. Jean, *soprano*; Haley Boyd, *mezzo-soprano*

Karynna Moore-Sobel, *soprano* (The Widow); Caitlyn Babcock, *mezzo-soprano* (An Angel)

Luke Honeck, *tenor* (Obadiah); Sarah Cao, *soprano* (The Youth)

PART II

Israel Rejoices

21. Aria (*Soprano*). Hear ye, Israel!
22. Chorus. Be not afraid

Elijah Confronts Ahab and Jezebel

23. Recitative (*Elijah*) with Chorus. The Lord hath exalted thee
24. Chorus. Woe to him!

Elijah Flees to the Wilderness

25. Recitative (*Tenor and Elijah*). Man of God
26. Aria (*Elijah*). It is enough
27. Recitative (*Tenor*). See, now he sleepeth
28. Trio. Lift thine eyes
29. Chorus. He, watching over Israel

Elijah Seeks the Lord's Presence

30. Recitative (*Alto*). Arise, Elijah
 Recitative (*Elijah*). Oh Lord, I have labored in vain
31. Aria (*Alto*). O rest in the Lord
32. Chorus. He that shall endure
33. Recitative (*Elijah*). Night falleth round me
 Recitative (*Soprano*). Arise, now!
34. Chorus. Behold, God the Lord
35. Recitative (*Alto*), Quartet, and Chorus. Holy is God the Lord
36. Chorus. Go, return upon thy way
 Recitative (*Elijah*). I go on my way
37. Arioso (*Elijah*). For the mountains shall depart

Elijah is Taken to Heaven

38. Chorus. Then did Elijah
39. Aria (*Tenor*). Then shall the righteous shine forth
40. Recitative (*Soprano*). Behold, God hath sent Elijah
41. Chorus. But the Lord from the north
42. Quartet. O come, every one that thirsteth
43. Chorus. And then shall your light break forth

Mackenzie Minguillo, *soprano* (An Angel); **Caroline Smith**, *mezzo-soprano* (The Queen)
Caleb Meyerhoff, *tenor* (Obadiah); **Jack Leslie**, *baritone*

Trio (No. 28)

Victoria Lang, *soprano*; **Marlena St. Jean**, *soprano*; **Sofia Martinez**, *mezzo-soprano*

Quartet (No. 35)

Victoria Lang, *soprano*; **Marlena St. Jean**, *soprano*
Sofia Martinez, *mezzo-soprano*; **Haley Boyd**, *mezzo-soprano*

Elijah, Op. 70

In the summer of 1845 Mendelssohn received a commission for the triennial Birmingham Music Festival to be held in August 1846. He had already written a successful oratorio on the New Testament figure St. Paul; this new oratorio would treat the Old Testament prophet Elijah. The libretto, drawn mostly from 1 Kings, was the combined effort of Julius Schubring, the librettist for *Paulus*, and Mendelssohn himself. He composed as he went along rather than waiting for the entire libretto, with the work finished a mere fifteen days before the premiere; the chorus learned their parts as they became available. The original German text, to which the music was set, was translated into English by William Bartholomew, and Mendelssohn then polished Bartholomew's translation. English-language choruses are thus singing a text that Mendelssohn wholeheartedly approved; in fact, he changed some rhythms to fit the English better. It's also the only text he ever conducted; he never led the German version. The work premiered on August 26, 1846, sung by a chorus of 271 (79 sopranos, 60 male altos, 60 tenors, and 72 basses). Mendelssohn conducted, and with *Elijah*, his last major work, he received what was probably the greatest reception of his life; within a year the oratorio had been sung as far away as St. Petersburg and New York City.

Elijah is different from many earlier oratorios and passions in not using a narrator, and it mostly lacks the chorales (or chorale-like sections) that were interlarded throughout *Paulus*. But Mendelssohn wanted drama and he got it; in fact, the work is sometimes staged. The oratorio opens with the solemn proclamation by Elijah, spiked with dissonant tritones: Israel will suffer a three-year drought as punishment for breaking the First Commandment—to worship a single God. In a brilliant stroke, Mendelssohn gives us the overture only *after* this pronouncement, and the first half of the oratorio deals with the curse's aftermath and leads to a dramatic showdown where the true God is the one to deliver the long-sought rain. Part II chronicles the continued persecution of Elijah until he is safely transported to heaven. The oratorio closes with joyful songs of praise to the Lord.

The music of *Elijah* is often dramatic, but it also sets texts of enormous comfort. We are in good hands, the texts say again and again; we're being taken care of; just hold on and all will work out. Angels "shall uphold and guide thee," "shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest." We are told that "His mercies on thousands fall." "Be not afraid; thy help is near." "Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help." "He watching over Israel slumbers not nor sleeps." "He that shall endure to the end shall be saved." "Cast thy burden upon the Lord." Surely it is this combination of drama and comfort that has made *Elijah* beloved of singers and audiences worldwide ever since its creation.

Honey Meconi

The Prophet Elijah Between History and Legend

Prophets played a variety of important roles in the religious and political life of ancient Israel. Unlike the priests (*kohanim*), who were in charge of performing the official religious rites, prophets (*nevi'im*) were unaffiliated with organized religion, and were charismatic leaders, inspired by divine revelation and driven to impart that revelation to the people. Prophets were primarily seers and oracles who also performed miraculous deeds. They were often considered clairvoyants capable of predicting the future, sometimes in a state of ecstasy. While the priests were all descendants of Aaron and were thus predestined to their functions by birth, each prophet was chosen individually to fulfill his mission.

Like many other prophets, Elijah was actively involved in the political life of his time. He lived in the 9th century B.C. At this time, the kingdom of David and Solomon was split into two separate realms, Israel and Judah. Elijah, born in Tishbe (a town east of the Jordan River), came to the court of King Ahab of Israel (ca. 873-851 B.C.) to protest against the king's policies. Ahab had married the Phoenician princess Jezebel, who had brought with her the worship of Baal and other Canaanite gods to Samaria, Israel's capital. Elijah's mission was to fight the foreign influence and defend the worship of Yahweh (Jehovah). As so often in history, the religious motives were inseparable from the political ones.

The events of Elijah's life, as recounted in 1 Kings, were subsequently embroidered and expanded in many Jewish (as well as Islamic) folk legends. Elijah was universally remembered as a provider for the people (since he put an end to a terrible three-year drought) and an opponent of social injustice. Since, according to the Bible, he ascended to heaven in a chariot of fire and did not have a grave on earth, it was assumed that he didn't die but wandered in disguise among the people, rewarding the hospitable poor and punishing the greedy rich. To this day, he is expected by Jews around the world to appear at the *Seder*, the traditional Passover family meal, and it is customary to leave an empty seat at the table in case he decides to show up at the last minute.

Daniel Bara

After the premiere of the revised version of *Elijah* in London, Prince Albert (Queen Victoria's husband) wrote into Mendelssohn's personal copy of the libretto:

To the noble artist who, surrounded by the Baal-worship of false art, through genius and study has been able, like a second Elijah, to remain true to the service of true art; who has freed our ear from the chaos of mindless jingling of tones, to accustom it once more to the pure sounds of truly reflected emotion and regular harmony; to the Great Master, who, in a steady stream of ideas, unrolls before us the whole panorama of the elements from the gentlest rustlings to the mightiest storms; in grateful recollection,

Albert

~ CONDUCTOR'S NOTE ~

I wish to thank the hundreds of community singers and students who have performed with the Eastman-Rochester Chorus, Eastman Chorale, and Eastman orchestras over the past 32 years. Your dedication to performing challenging masterworks at the highest possible level has been a constant inspiration to me. It has been the greatest honor for me to work alongside you and to experience your inspiring artistry at every rehearsal and performance.

William Weinert

~ TEXT ~

Mendelssohn's *Elijah* Oratorio on Words of the Old Testament

English Version of the text by William Bartholomew

Part I

The Drought

Introduction

Elijah: As God the Lord of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

1 Kings 17:1

Overture

Elijah Saves the Widow's Son

1. Chorus

The People: Help, Lord! Wilt Thou quite destroy us? The harvest now is over, the summer days are gone, and yet no power cometh to help us! Will then the Lord be no more God in Zion?

The People: The deeps afford no water; and the rivers are exhausted! The suckling's tongue now cleaveth for thirst to his mouth, the infant children ask for bread, and there is no one breaketh it to feed them!

Jeremiah 8:20 / Lamentations 4:4

2. Duet and Chorus

The People: Lord, bow Thine ear to our prayer!

Two Women: Zion spreadeth her hands for aid, and there is neither help nor comfort.

Lamentations 1:17

3. Recitative

Obadiah: Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments, for your transgressions, even as Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, forsake your idols, return to God; for He is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil.

Joel 2:12–13

4. Aria

Obadiah: “If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me.” Thus saith our God. Oh, that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence!

Deuteronomy 4:29 / Job 23:3

5. Chorus

The People: Yet doth the Lord see it not; He mocketh at us! His curse hath fallen down upon us. His wrath will pursue us till He destroy us! For He, the Lord our God, He is a jealous God, and He visiteth all the fathers' sins on the children to the third and the fourth generation of them that hate Him. His mercies on thousands fall, fall on all them that love Him and keep His commandments.

Exodus 20:5–6

6. Recitative

An Angel: Elijah! Get thee hence, Elijah! Depart and turn thee eastward: thither hide thee by Cherith's brook. There shalt thou drink its waters; and the Lord thy God hath commanded the ravens to feed thee there. So do according unto His word.

1 Kings 17:3–4

7. Double Quartet

Angels: For He shall give His angels charge over thee, that they shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest; that their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Psalms 91:11–12

7A. Recitative

An Angel: Now Cherith's brook is dried up, Elijah. Arise and depart, and get thee to Zarephath. Thither abide; for the Lord hath commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. And the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

1 Kings 17:7, 9, 14

8. Recitative, Air, and Duet

The Widow: What have I to do with thee, O man of God? Art thou come to me, to call my sin unto remembrance? To slay my son art thou come hither? Help me, man of God, my son is sick, and his sickness is so sore that there is no breath left in him! I go mourning all the day long, I lie down and weep at night! See mine affliction, be thou the orphan's helper.

Elijah: Give me thy son! Turn unto her, O Lord, my God; in mercy help this widow's son. For Thou art gracious, and full of compassion, and plenteous in mercy and truth. Lord, my God, let the spirit of this child return that he again may live!

The Widow: Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? There is no breath in him.

Elijah: Lord, my God, let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

The Widow: Shall the dead arise and praise Thee?

Elijah: Lord, my God, O let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

The Widow: The Lord hath heard thy prayer, the soul of my son reviveth!

Elijah: Now behold, thy son liveth!

The Widow: Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that His word in thy mouth is the truth. What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

Elijah: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, love Him with all thine heart, and...

Elijah and Widow: ...with all thy/my soul and with all thy/my might. O blessed are they who fear Him!

*1 Kings 17:17–18, 21–24 / Job 10:15
Psalms 38:6; 6:7; 10:14; 86:15–16; 88:10; 128:1*

9. Chorus

Blessed are all they who fear Him, they ever walk in the ways of peace. Through darkness riseth light to the upright. He is gracious, compassionate; He is righteous.

Psalms 128:1; 112:1, 4

Elijah Confronts the Priests of Baal

10. Recitative and Chorus

Elijah: As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth, before whom I stand, three years this day fulfilled, I will shew myself unto Ahab, and the Lord will then send rain again upon the earth.

King Ahab: Art thou Elijah, he that troubleth Israel?

Chorus: Thou art Elijah, he that troubleth Israel!

Elijah: I never troubled Israel's peace. It is thou, Ahab, and all thy father's house. Ye have forsaken God's commands, and thou hast followed Baalim! Now send and gather to me the whole of Israel unto Mount Carmel. There summon the prophets of Baal, and also the prophets of the groves, who are feasted at Jezebel's table. Then, then we shall see whose God is God the Lord.

Chorus: And then we shall see whose God is God the Lord.

Elijah: Rise then, ye priests of Baal; select and slay a bullock, and put no fire under it; uplift your voices and call the god ye worship; and I then will call on the Lord Jehovah. And the god who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

Chorus: Yea, and the god who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

Elijah: Call first upon your god, your numbers are many. I, even I only remain one prophet of the Lord. Invoke your forest gods, and mountain deities.

1 Kings 18:1, 15, 17–19, 23–25

11. Chorus

Priests of Baal: Baal, we cry to thee, hear and answer us! Heed the sacrifice we offer! Hear us, Baal, hear, mighty god! Baal, O answer us! Baal, let thy flames fall and extirpate the foe! Baal, O hear us!

1 Kings 18:26

12. Recitative and Chorus

Elijah: Call him louder! For he is a god. He talketh, or he is pursuing, or he is on a journey; or peradventure he sleepeth. So awaken him. Call him louder!

Priests of Baal: Hear our cry, O Baal! Now arise! Wherefore slumber?

1 Kings 18:26–27

13. Recitative and Chorus

Elijah: Call him louder! He heareth not. With knives and lancets cut yourselves after your manner. Leap upon the altar ye have made. Call him and prophesy. Not a voice will answer you; none will listen; none heed you.

Priests of Baal: Baal! Hear and answer, Baal! Mark how the scorner derideth us! Hear and answer!

14. Recitative and Air

Elijah: Draw near all ye people, come to me!

Elijah: Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, this day let it be known that Thou art God and I am Thy servant! Lord God of Abraham! O shew to all this people that I have done these things according to Thy word. O hear me, Lord, and answer me! Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, O hear me and answer me; and shew this people that Thou art Lord God, and let their hearts again be turned!

1 Kings 18:26–30; 36–37

15. Quartet

Angels: Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee. He never will suffer the righteous to fall; He is at thy right hand. Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heavens. Let none be made ashamed, that wait upon Thee!

Psalms 55:22; 16:8; 108:5; 25:3

16. Recitative and Chorus

Elijah: O Thou who makest Thine angels spirits; Thou, whose ministers are flaming fires, let them now descend!

The People: The fire descends from heaven! The flames consume his offering! Before Him upon your faces fall! The Lord is God. O Israel hear! Our God is one Lord, and we will have no other gods before the Lord.

Elijah: Take all the prophets of Baal, and let not one of them escape you. Bring them down to Kishon's brook, and there let them be slain.

The People: Take all the prophets of Baal, and let not one of them escape us. Bring all, and slay them!

1 Kings 18:38–40

17. Aria

Elijah: Is not His word like a fire, and like a hammer that breaketh the rock into pieces? For God is angry with the wicked every day. And if the wicked turn not, the Lord will whet His sword; and He hath bent His bow, and made it ready!

Jeremiah 23:29 / Psalm 7:11–12

18. Arioso

Alto: Woe unto them who forsake Him! Destruction shall fall upon them, for they have transgressed against Him. Though they are by Him redeemed, yet they have spoken falsely against Him. Though they are by Him redeemed, from Him have they fled.

Hosea 7:13

Elijah Prays for Rain

19. Recitative

Obadiah: O man of God, help thy people! Among the idols of the Gentiles are there any that can command the rain or cause the heavens to give their showers? The Lord our God alone can do these things.

19A. Recitative with Chorus

Elijah: O Lord, Thou hast overthrown Thine enemies and destroyed them. Look down on us from heaven, O Lord; regard the distress of Thy people! Open the heavens and send us relief; help Thy servant now, O God!

The People: Open the heavens and send us relief; help Thy servant now, O God!

Elijah: Go up now, child, and look toward the sea. Hath my prayer been heard by the Lord?

The Youth: There is nothing. The heavens are as brass above me.

Elijah: When the heavens are closed up because they have sinned against Thee, yet, if they pray and confess Thy name, and turn from their sin when Thou dost afflict them, then hear from heaven and forgive the sin. Help, send Thy servant help, O God!

The People: Then hear from heaven and forgive our sin! Help, send Thy servant help, O God!

Elijah: Go up again, and still look toward the sea.

The Youth: There is nothing. The earth is as iron under me.

Elijah: Hearest thou no sound of rain? Seest thou nothing arise from the deep?

The Youth: No, there is nothing.

Elijah: Have respect to the prayer of Thy servant, O Lord my God! Unto Thee will I cry, Lord my rock. Be not silent to me; and Thy great mercies remember, Lord.

The Youth: Behold, a little cloud ariseth now from the waters: it is like a man's hand! The heavens are black with clouds and wind; the storm rusheth louder and louder!

The People: Thanks be to God for all His mercies!

Elijah: Thanks be to God, for He is gracious, and His mercy endureth forevermore!

*Jeremiah 14:22 / 2 Chronicles 6:19, 26–27 / Deuteronomy 28:23
Psalm 28:1 / 1 Kings 18:43–45*

20. Chorus

Thanks be to God, He laveth the thirsty land. The waters gather, they rush along! They are lifting their voices! The stormy billows are high; their fury is mighty. But the Lord is above them, and Almighty.

Psalm 93:3–4

Part II

Israel Rejoices

21. Aria

Soprano: Hear ye, Israel; hear what the Lord speaketh: “Oh, hadst thou heeded my commandments!” Who hath believed our report? To whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him oppressed by tyrants, thus saith the Lord: “I am He that comforteth; be not afraid, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee. Say, who art thou, that thou art afraid of a man that shall die, and forgettest the Lord thy maker, who hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the earth's foundations? Be not afraid, for I, thy God, will strengthen thee.”

Isaiah 48:1, 18; 53:1; 49:7; 41:10; 51:12–13

22. Chorus

“Be not afraid,” saith God the Lord, “Be not afraid, thy help is near.” God, the Lord thy God, sayeth unto thee, “Be not afraid!” Though thousands languish and fall beside thee, and tens of thousands around thee perish, yet still it shall not come nigh thee.

Isaiah 41:10 / Psalm 91:7

Elijah Confronts Ahab and Jezebel

23. Recitative and Chorus

Elijah: The Lord hath exalted thee from among the people, and o'er His people Israel hath made thee King. But thou, Ahab, hast done evil to provoke Him to anger above all that were before thee; as if it had been a light thing for thee to walk in the sins of Jeroboam. Thou hast made a grove, and an altar to Baal, and served him and worshipped him. Thou hast killed the righteous, and also taken possession. And the Lord shall smite all Israel as a reed is shaken in the water, and He shall give Israel up, and thou shalt know He is the Lord.

1 Kings 14:7, 9, 15; 16:30–33

The Queen: Have ye not heard he hath prophesied against all Israel?

Chorus: We heard it with our ears.

The Queen: Hath he not prophesied also against the king of Israel?

Chorus: We heard it with our ears.

The Queen: And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Doth Ahab govern the kingdom of Israel, while Elijah's power is greater than the king's? The gods do so to me and more, if by tomorrow about this time, I make not his life as the life of one of them whom he hath sacrificed at the brook of Kishon!

Chorus: He shall perish!

The Queen: Hath he not destroyed Baal's prophets?

Chorus: He shall perish!

The Queen: Yea, by sword he destroyed them all!

Chorus: He destroyed them all!

The Queen: He also closed the heavens.

Chorus: He also closed the heavens.

The Queen: And called down a famine upon the land.

Chorus: And called down a famine upon the land.

The Queen: So go ye forth, and seize Elijah, for he is worthy to die. Slaughter him! Do unto him as he hath done!

24. Chorus

Woe to him! He shall perish, for he closed the heavens. And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Let the guilty prophet perish! He hath spoken falsely against our land and us, as we have heard with our ears. So go ye forth, seize on him! He shall die!

Jeremiah 26:9, 11 / 1 Kings 19:2; 21:7 / Ecclesiastes 48:2-3

Elijah Flees to the Wilderness

25. Recitative

Obadiah: Man of God, now let my words be precious in thy sight! Thus saith Jezebel, "Elijah is worthy to die." So the mighty gather against thee, and they have prepared a net for thy steps, that they may seize thee. Arise then, and hasten for thy life; to the wilderness journey. The Lord, thy God, doth go with thee. He will not fail thee, He will not forsake thee. Now begone, and bless me also.

Elijah: Though stricken, they have not grieved. Tarry here, my servant; the Lord be with thee. I journey hence to the wilderness.

*2 Kings 1:13 / Jeremiah 5:3; 26:11 / Psalm 59:3
1 Kings 19:4 / Deuteronomy 31:6 / Exodus 12:32 / 1 Samuel 17:37*

26. Aria

Elijah: It is enough! O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers. I desire to live no longer. Now let me die, for my days are but vanity. I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts, for the children of Israel have broken Thy covenant, and thrown down Thine altars, and slain all Thy prophets, slain them with the sword. And I, even I only am left, and they seek my life to take it away!

Job 7:16 / 1 Kings 19:10

27. Recitative

Tenor: See now, he sleepeth beneath a juniper tree in the wilderness, and there the angel of the Lord encampeth round about all them that fear him.

1 Kings 19:5 / Psalm 34:7

28. Trio

Angels: Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy keeper will never slumber.

Psalm 121:1, 3

29. Chorus

Angels: He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps. Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.

Psalm 121:4; 138:7

Elijah Seeks the Lord's Presence

30. Recitative

The Angel: Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey before thee. Forty days and forty nights shalt thou go, to Horeb, the mount of God.

Elijah: O Lord, I have labored in vain; yea, I have spent my strength for naught, and in vain! O that Thou wouldst rend the heavens, that Thou would come down! That the mountains would flow down at Thy presence, to make Thy name known to Thine adversaries, through the wonders of Thy works! O Lord, why hast Thou made us to err from Thy ways? and hardened our hearts, that they do not fear thee? O that I now might die!

1 Kings 19:8 / Isaiah 49:4; 64:1-2

31. Aria

The Angel: O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him, and He shall give thee thy heart's desires. Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him, and fret not thyself because of evil doers.

Psalm 37:1, 7

32. Chorus

He that shall endure to the end shall be saved.

Matthew 24:13

33. Recitative

Elijah: Night falleth round me, O Lord! Be Thou not far from me! Hide not Thy face, O Lord, from me; my soul is thirsting for Thee, as a thirsty land.

The Angel: Arise now, get thee without, stand on the mount before the Lord; for there His glory will appear and shine on thee! Thy face must be veiled, for He draweth near.

Psalm 143:6-7 / 1 Kings 19:11

34. Chorus

Behold, God the Lord passed by! And a mighty wind rent the mountains around, break in pieces the rocks, break them before the Lord. But yet the Lord was not in the tempest. Behold, God the Lord passed by! And the sea was upheaved, and the earth was shaken. But yet the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake there came a fire. But yet the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came a still, small voice: And in that still voice onward came the Lord.

1 Kings 19:11–12

35. Recitative, Quartet, and Chorus

Alto: Above him stood the seraphim: and one cried to another:

Angels: Holy, holy, holy is God the Lord Sabaoth. Now his glory hath filled all the earth.

Isaiah 6:2–3

36. Chorus and Recitative

Go, return upon thy way! For the Lord yet hath left Him seven thousand in Israel, knees which have not bowed to Baal. Go, return upon thy way. Thus the Lord commandeth.

Elijah: I go on my way in the strength of the Lord. For Thou art my Lord, and I will suffer for Thy sake. My heart is therefore glad, my glory rejoiceth; and my flesh shall also rest in hope.

1 Kings 19:15, 18 / Psalms 71:16; 16:2, 9

37. Arioso

Elijah: For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed, but Thy kindness shall not depart from me; neither shall the covenant of Thy peace be removed.

Isaiah 54:10

Elijah is Taken to Heaven

38. Chorus

Then did Elijah the prophet break forth like a fire; his words appeared like burning torches. Mighty kings by him were overthrown. He stood on the mount of Sinai and heard the judgements of the future, and in Horeb its vengeance. And when the Lord would take him away to heaven, lo, there came a fiery chariot with fiery horses, and he went by a whirlwind to heaven.

Ecclesiastes 48:1, 6–7 / 2 Kings 2:1, 11

39. Aria

Tenor: Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm. Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away forever.

Matthew 8:43 / Isaiah 51:11

40. Recitative

Soprano: Behold, God hath sent Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children unto their fathers, lest the Lord shall come and smite the earth with a curse.

Malachi 4:5–6

41. Chorus

But the Lord from the north hath raised one, who from the rising of the sun shall call upon His name, and come on princes. Behold, my servant and mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth! On him the Spirit of God shall rest, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of might and of counsel, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord: "I have raised one from the north, who from the rising on my name shall call."

Isaiah 41:25; 42:1; 11:2

42. Quartet

O come, every one that thirsteth, O come to the waters, O come unto him. O hear, and your souls shall live forever.

Isaiah 55:1, 3

43. Chorus

And then, then shall your light break forth as the light of morning breaketh, and your health shall speedily spring forth then. And the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you. Lord, our Creator, how excellent Thy name is in all the nations, Thou fillest heaven with Thy glory. Amen!

Isaiah 58:8 / Psalm 8: 1

~ PERSONNEL ~

Eastman Philharmonia

Violin I

Cece Santiago,
concertmaster

Juyoung Lee
Kelsey Payne
Madison Oh
Karen Wang
Ellen Kim
Benjamin Jackson
Hagan Tran
Olivia Walberger
Nicole Cheng
Sedona Kmen
Yichen Wei

Violin II

Kaitlyn McLaughlin,
principal
Amelia Posner-Hess
Liliana Mahave
Ingrid Buschkopf
Lauren Edwards
Victoria Zhao
Lisa Wang
Lewis Li
Tiara Lai

Viola

Phoenix Mercier,
principal
Matthew Vu
Ricky Chui
Abigail Benzinger
Anna Brooke
Zijin Yang
Keon Sagara
Xiaoyu Gao

Cello

Zoe Hardel,
principal
Haozheng Sun
Alex Tuan
Jiabao Chang
Anika Grieve

Bass

Annaliese White,
principal
Samantha Liu
Lindsey Joslin
Nathan Kim

Flute

Isabella Saldaña
Allison Schultz

Oboe

Xander O'Neil
Sihan Qi

Clarinet

Barak Dosunmu
Andrew Robertson

Bassoon

Aaron Lukenbill
Michael Deresz

Horn

Mary Kimble
Suzie Lee
Nicole Keller
Aby Stumpf
Evelyn Hupka

Trumpet

Cole Pringle
Jarett Jean Jacques

Trombone

Joshua Hunt
Jonas Ruelas
Andrew Bianchi

Tuba

Kyle Boschen

Timpani

Ben Landon

~ PERSONNEL ~

Eastman-Rochester Chorus

William Weinert, *conductor*

Liyao Yu, *assistant conductor*

Veniamin Blokh, *rehearsal pianist*

Nathaniel Peets and Audrey Rivetta, *personnel managers*

Soprano

Katherine Adamides
Lorrie Alt
Kellie Barbato
Rachel Boucher
Patricia Bratton
Sarah Bullard
Caris Burton
Sofia Calvo Rivera
Meghan Cameron
Jody DeBell
Alicia Democko
*Hannah Duff
Katherine Fahoury
Rebecca Gibbon-Whitehair
Kathy Grant
Jeanne Grace
Alisa Hall
Kathleen Horton
Christine Huggins
Heather Kaminsky
Suzan Keng
Judith Kowalsky
Ashlee Lang
Xintong Li
Andrea Marino
Stephanie Marsh
Irene Martinez
Kayleigh Montante
Beth Myers
Kristina Niemiec
Joyce Porrey
Taryn Reilly
Eloise Schrag
Faith Strohm
*Esther Ting
Arlene Vanderlinde
Vicky Wadsworth
Julia Walsh
Shannon Yawman
Huiran Yu
Amy Zou

Alto

Amadimo Belleh
Brenda Bixby
Karina Bryant
Linda Cass
Debbie Cole
Mary Ellen Coleman
Emma Draper-Reich
Judy Dubin
Elizabeth Feuerstein
Diana Gerken
Charlotte Giebel
Joyce Gilbert
Katie Hahn
Shannon Iosevich
Margaret Kaminsky
Meghan Kellogg
Marni Kerr
Elizabeth Kimble
Laura Knoeck
Zhenya Knyazhanskaya
Nina Koski
*Anna Lenti
Maria Leonardo
Sue Lione
Mary McMullan
Honey Meconi
Sandy Moncrief
Claire Nabrotzky
Becca Orton
Caryl Papas
Lloyd Peasley
Jenny Petersen
Audrey Rivetta
Patricia Sanborn
Andrea Schuler
Karen Sladden
Julie Stefko
Veronica Taccone
Emma Unkrich
Joy Vandling
Kathleen Vogtle
Clara Weinert
Cheryl Wheeler
Fran Wyffels
Wanyin Yao
Liyao Yu
Morgan Ziemba

Tenor

Charles Bachmann
Tristan Bachmann
Vincent Bissonette
Mark Catlin
Christopher Clarke
Harrison Dean
*Connor Doran
Remy Fenster
Steve Grace
Luke Jarzyna
Gary King
David Klein
David Last
*Joe Lerangis
Desmond Mulready
Mark Phinney
Nicolas Taccetti
*Okawa Tan
Mark Toor
Noah Whitley
Stephen Wolak

Bass

Joshua Bassette
David Berg
Evan Burr
Paul Caito
Rick Collier
Walter Cook
*Reed Criddle
Lizhou Ding
Yidi Ding
Carter Greeson
*Jiabao Guo
*David E. Hahn
Paul Hale
*Mark Helms
Christopher Hinkle
*Caleb Hopkins
Joshua Johnstone
*Ömer Kayhan
Alan Kaminsky
David Kraft
Vincent Lobe
*Colin Mann
Aidan Meador-Woodruff
*Rayvon T. J. Moore
Emory Morris
*Jonathan Mott
Richard Myers
Immanuel Mykita-Chomsky
Nathaniel Peets
Jason Perfetto
Andrew Perricone
Andy Poshadel
Peter Schermerhorn
Katherine Snelling
Paul Stuart
Harrison Sturgeon
Lemuel Todd
William Unterborn
Carl Vollbracht
Lewis Ward-Baker
*Lee S. Wright
Changning Xu

**ESM Choral
Conducting Alumni*

~ **PERSONNEL** ~

Eastman Chorale

William Weinert, *conductor*
Liyao Yu, *assistant conductor*
Dominic Fiacco, *rehearsal pianist*

Soprano

Evan Anderson
Remington Collins
Emmaline Colvin
Amelia Harkey
Christine Kelly
Kaylie Kemler
Xintong Li
Sofia Mains
Liliana Mann
Lauren Stanger
Lily Sumida

Alto

Julia Drover Crane
Kai Harrington
Morgan Kerr
Andrea McGaugh
Audrey Rivetta
Leah Rosenman
Liyao Yu

Tenor

Zachary Amdur
Noah T. Carver
Benjamin Coudriet
Michael Cullinan
Nicholas Figura
Lucas Mann
Andrew Perricone
Evan Sercombe
Zachary Thompson
Brandon Wong

Bass

Isaac Cohen
Dominic Fiacco
Max Foreman
Elijah Gebers
James Jeffery
Joshua Johnstone
Jayden Kleinschmidt
Darrin Nicholson II
Alex Nunley
Jordan Oney
Mitchell Parmelee
Nathaniel Peets
Layvon Scott
Gu Hong Wu

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the “Great Hill People” and “Keepers of the Western Door” of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.



For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.

~ **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** ~

Marcia Weinert, *Supertitles*
Andrea McGaugh, *Choral Librarian*
Meredith Gangler, *Head Ensemble Librarian and Manager*
Dan Mason, *Manager of Stage Operations*
Charles Carr, *Kodak Hall Stage Manager*
Jess Green, *Kodak Hall House Manager*
Julia Ng, *Assistant Director of Concert Operations*
Eastman Voice and Opera Faculty
Eastman Conducting and Ensembles Faculty
Eastman Applied Faculty

