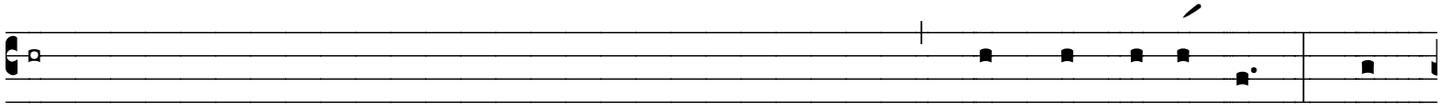


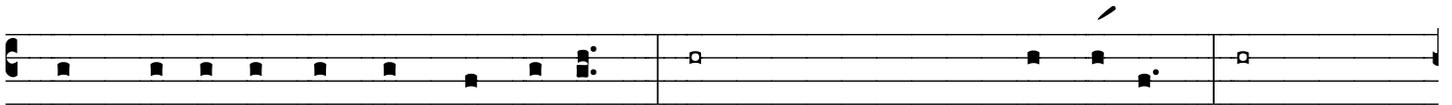
Luke 3:7-18 (Advent 3 C RCL) (NRSV)



✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Je-sus Christ ac-cord-ing to Luke. ✠ *Glo-ry to you, Lord Christ.*



John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vi - pers! Who



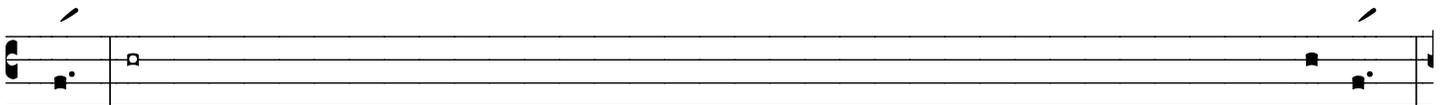
warned you to flee from the wrath to come? **8** Bear fruits worthy of re-pent-ance. Do not begin



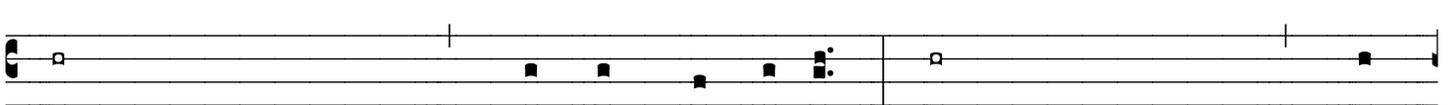
to say to yourselves, ‘We have Ab-ra-ham as our an-ces-tor’; for I tell you, God is able from



these stones to raise up children to Ab - ra - ham. **9** Even now the ax is lying at the root of the



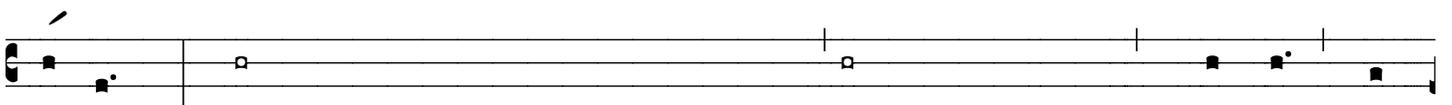
trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”



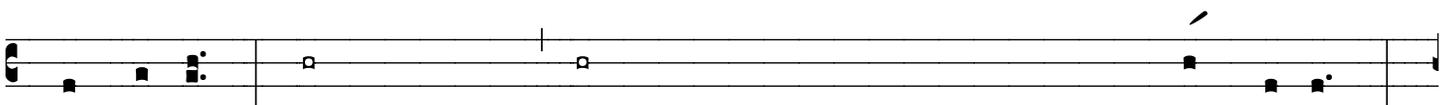
10 And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” **11** In reply he said to them, “Who -



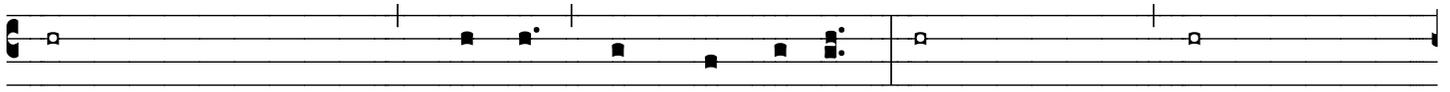
ever has two coats must share with an - y - one who has none; and whoever has food must do



like-wise.” **12** Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teach-er, what



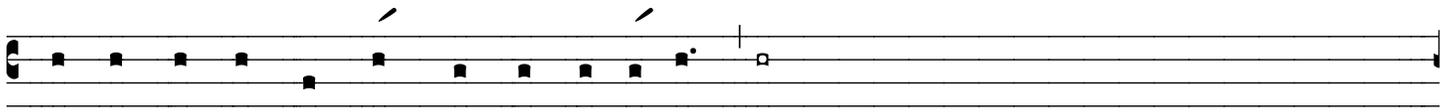
should we do?” **13** He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount pre-scribed for you.” **14**



Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort



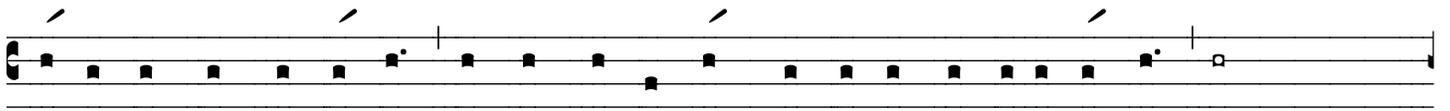
money from anyone by threats or false ac - cu - sa - tion, and be satisfied with your wag - es.”



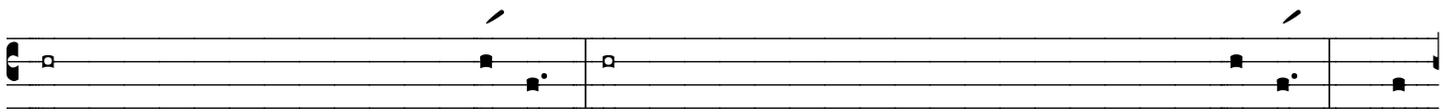
15 As the peo-ple were filled with ex-pec-ta - tion, and all were questioning in their hearts con -



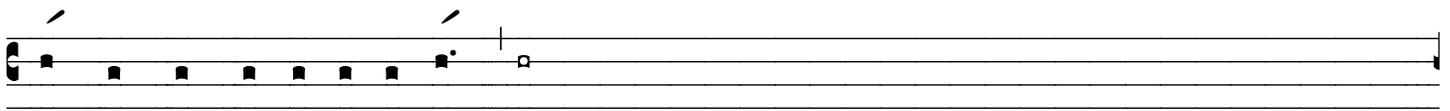
cern-ing John, wheth-er he might be the Mes-si - ah, 16 John answered all of them by saying,



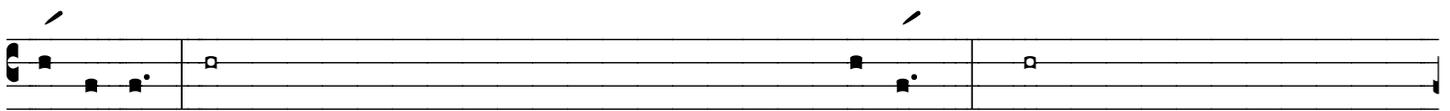
“I bap-tize you with wa-ter; but one who is more pow-er-ful than I is com-ing; I am not wor-



thy to untie the thong of his san-dals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His



wi-now-ing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his



gra-na-ry; but the chaff he will burn with unquencha-ble fire.” 18 So, with many other exhor-



ta-tions, he pro-claimed the good news to the peo-ple. ❧ The Gospel of the Lord.