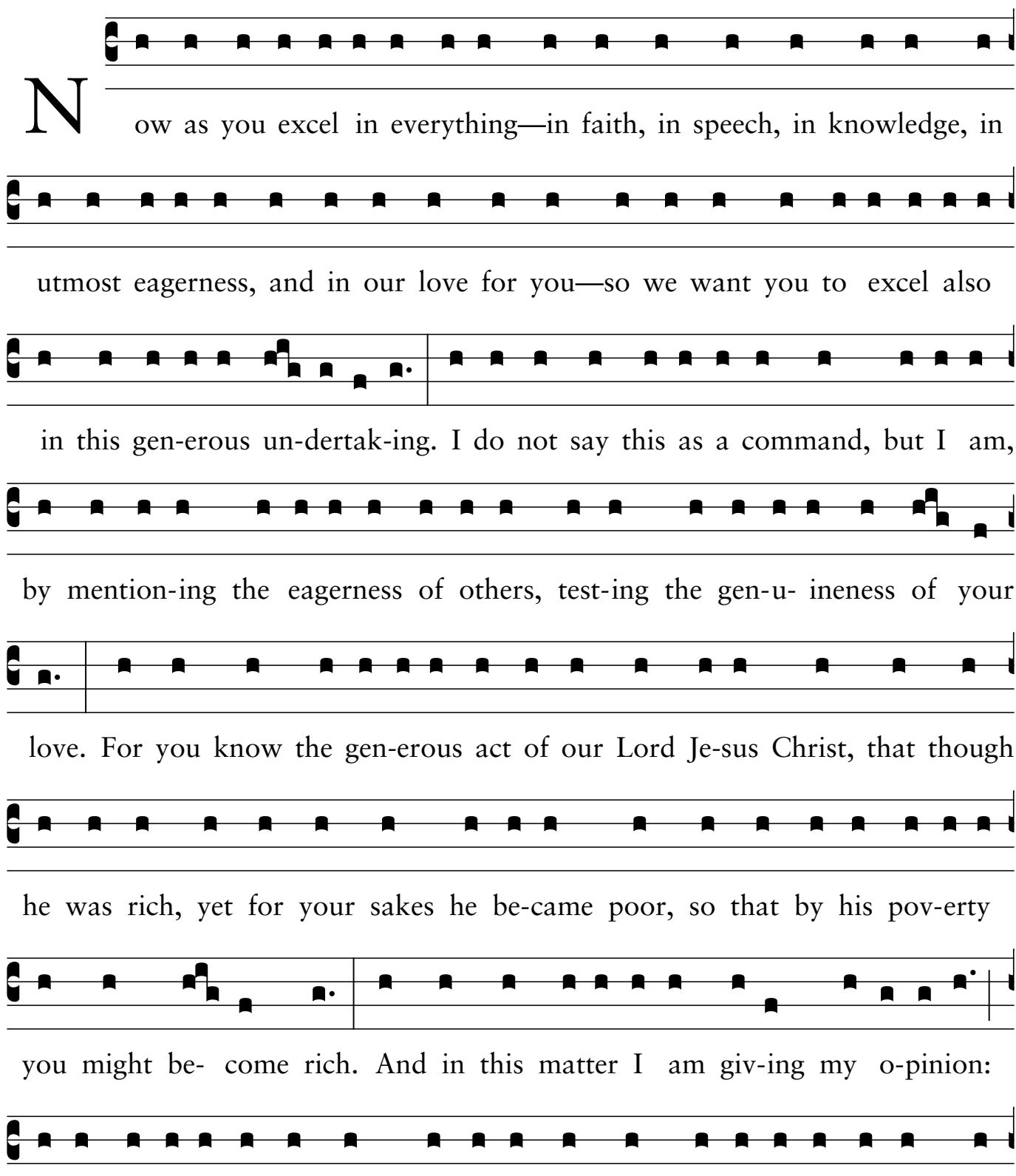


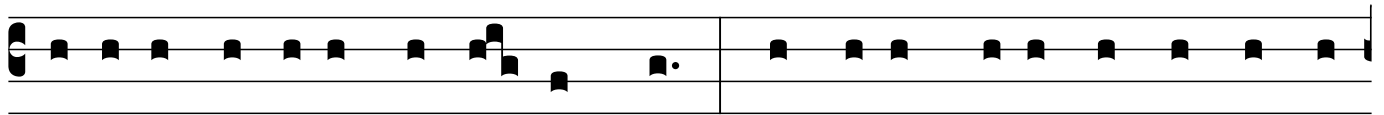
2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Proper 8

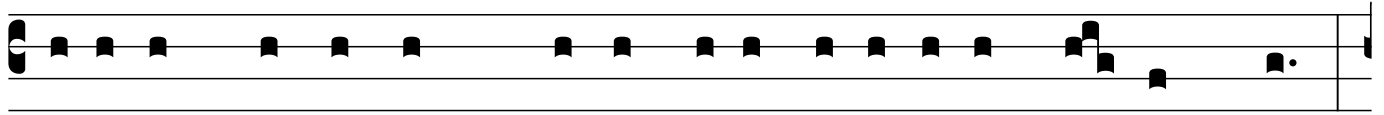


Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this gen-erous un-dertak-ing. I do not say this as a command, but I am, by mention-ing the eagerness of others, test-ing the gen-u- ineness of your love. For you know the gen-erous act of our Lord Je-sus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he be-came poor, so that by his pov-erty you might be- come rich. And in this matter I am giv-ing my o-pinion:

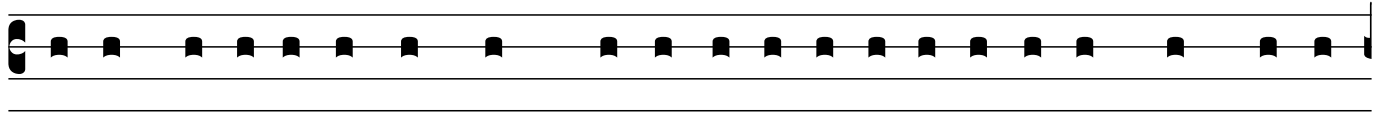
it is ben-e- fi-cial for you who be-gan last year not only to do something



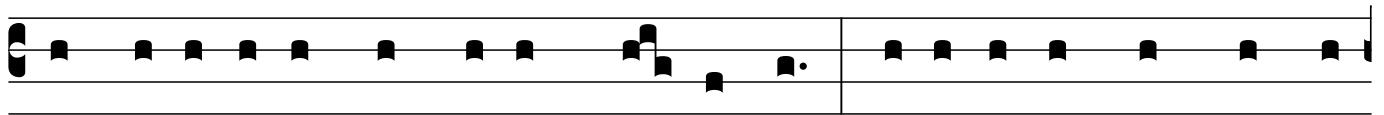
but e-ven to de-sire to do something. Now fin-ish do-ing it, so that your



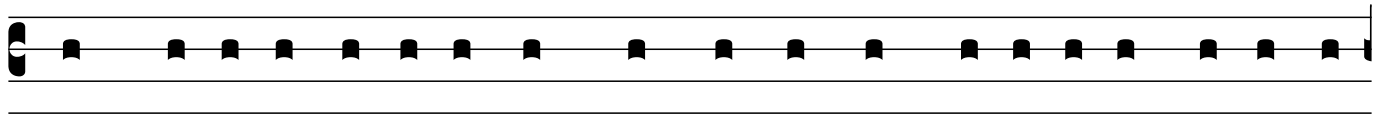
eagerness may be matched by complet-ing it according to your means.



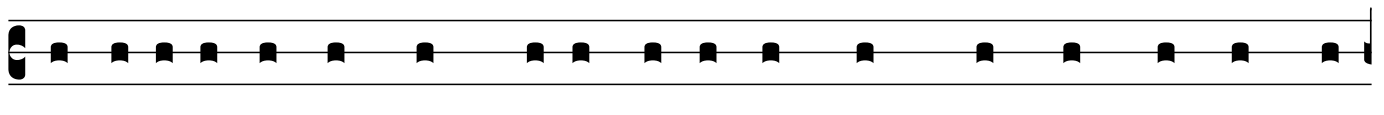
For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one



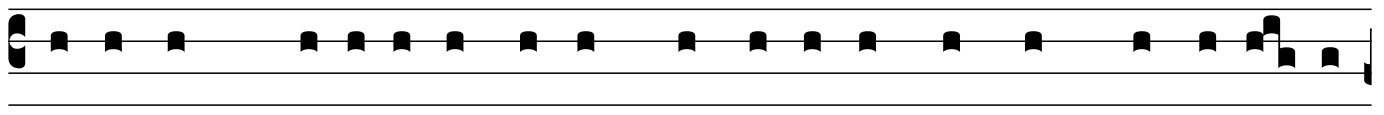
has, not according to what one does not have. For I do not mean that there



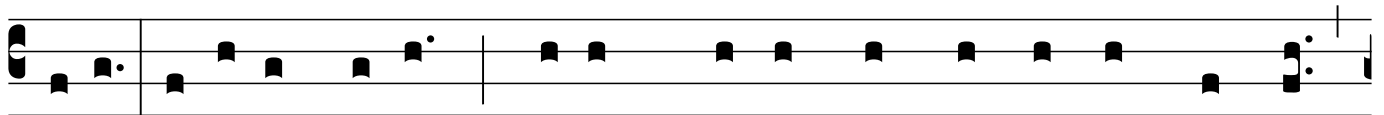
should be re-lief for others and hardship for you, but it is a question of



equal-i-ty between your pre-sent a-bundance and their need, so that their



a-bundance may also supply your need, in order that there may be e-qual-



i-ty. As it is writ-ten, “The one who had much did not have too much,



and the one who had little did not have too little.”