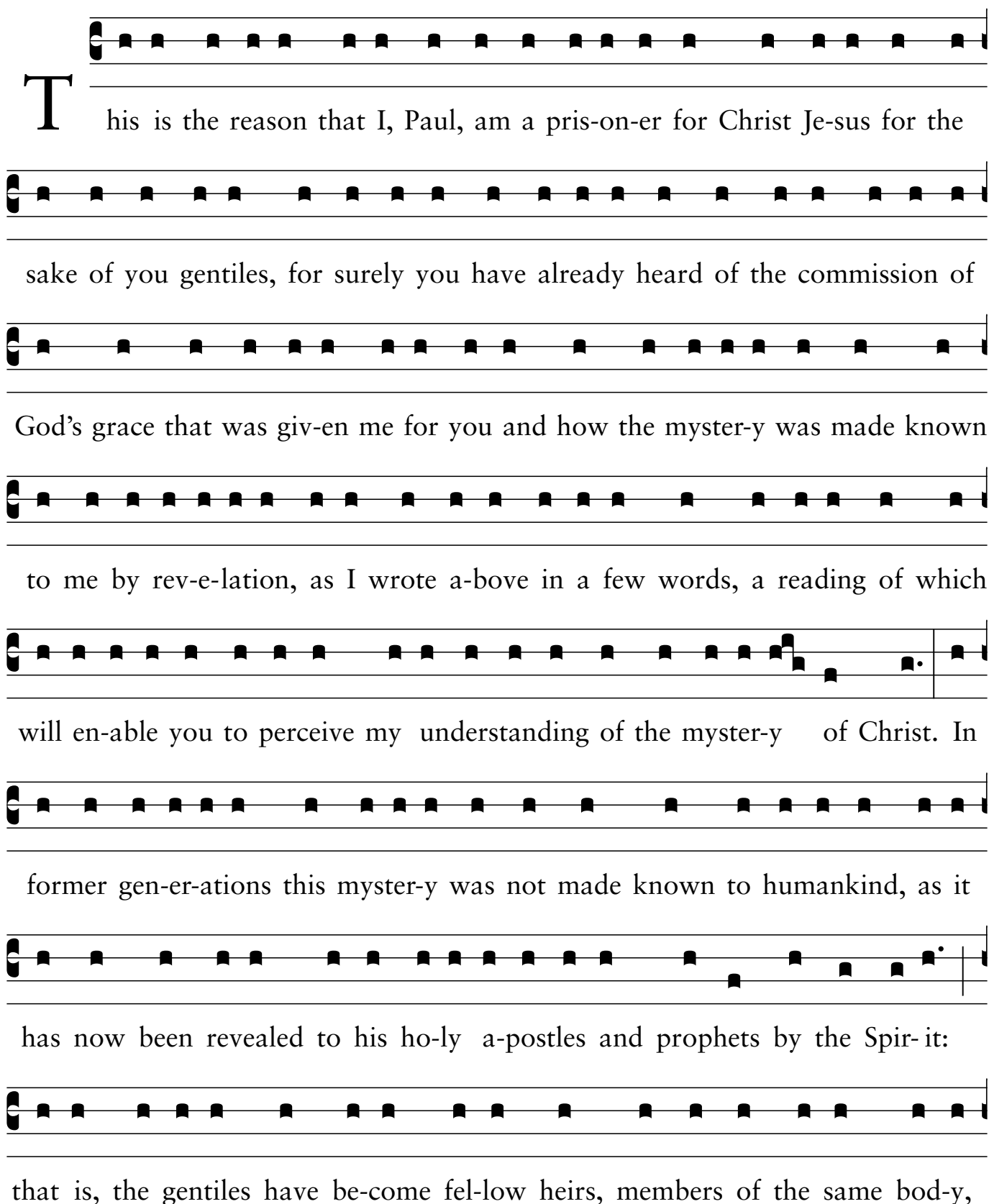
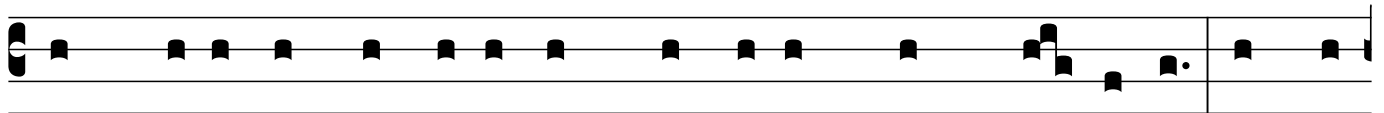


2 Corinthians 3:1-6

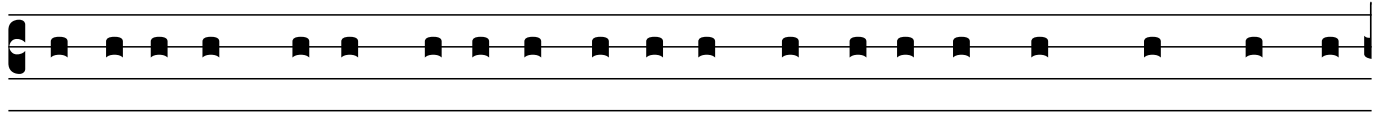
Epiphany 8/Proper 3



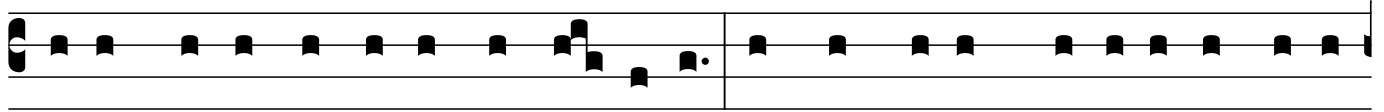
This is the reason that I, Paul, am a pris-on-er for Christ Je-sus for the sake of you gentiles, for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was giv-en me for you and how the myster-y was made known to me by rev-e-lation, as I wrote a-bove in a few words, a reading of which will en-able you to perceive my understanding of the myster-y of Christ. In former gen-er-ations this myster-y was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his ho-ly a-postles and prophets by the Spir-it: that is, the gentiles have be-come fel-low heirs, members of the same bod-y,



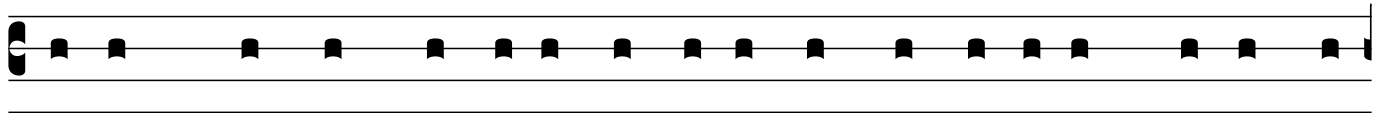
and shar-ers in the promise in Christ Je-sus through the gospel. Of this



gospel I have be-come a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was



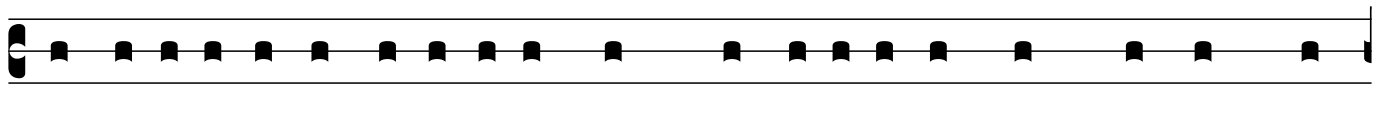
giv-en me by the working of his power. Although I am the ver-y least of all



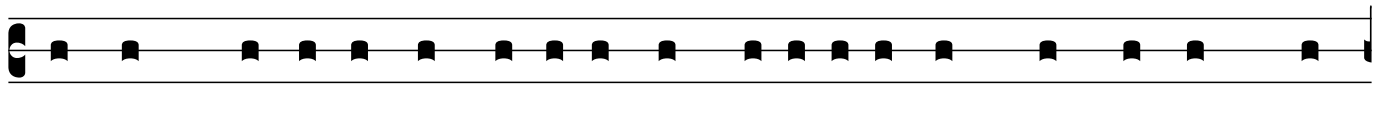
the saints, this grace was giv-en to me to bring to the gentiles the news of



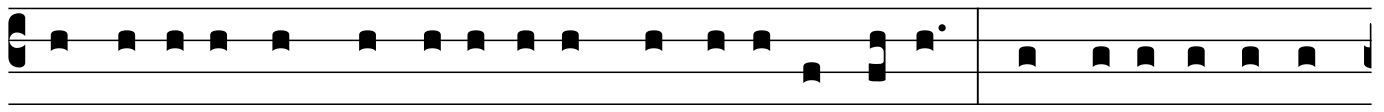
the boundless riches of Christ and to make every-one see what is the plan of



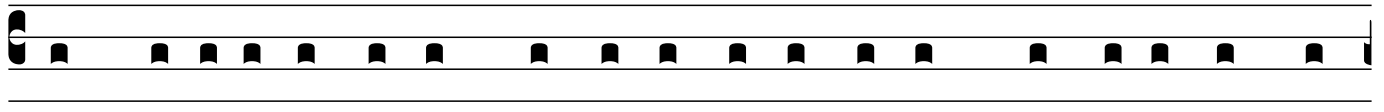
the myster-y hidden for ag-es in God, who cre- at-ed all things, so that through



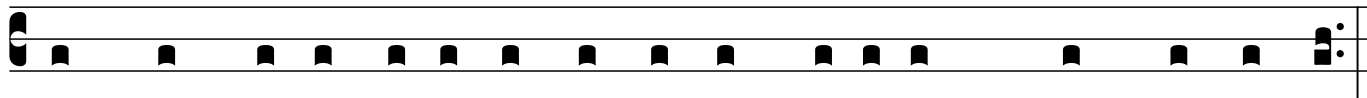
the church the wisdom of God in its rich va-ri- e-ty might now be made known



to the rul-ers and author-i-ties in the heavenly plac-es. This was in accordance



with the e-ternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Je-sus our Lord,



in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.