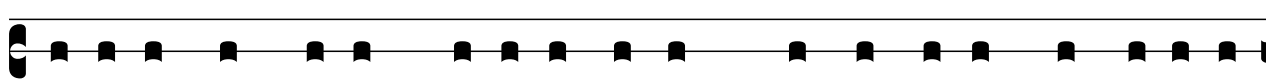
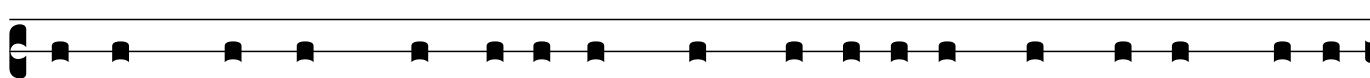


Philippians 3:3b-14

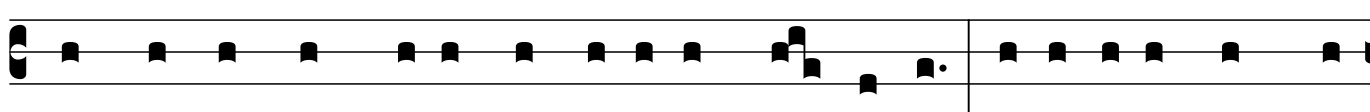
Proper 22



F or it is we who are the circumci-sion, who worship in the Spir-it of



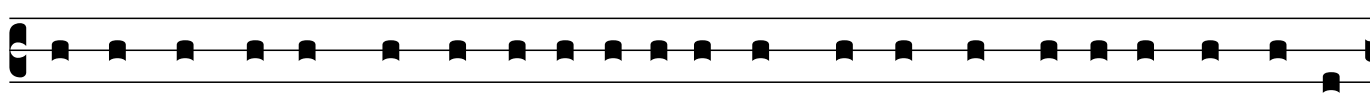
God and boast in Christ Je-sus and have no confi-dence in the flesh— e-ven



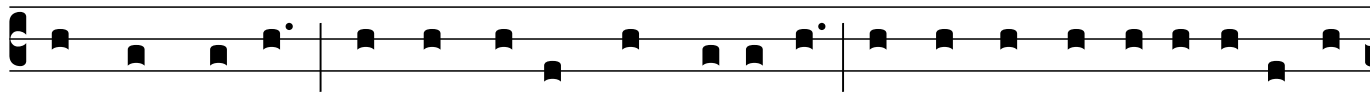
though I, too, have reason for confi-dence in the flesh. If an-y- one else has



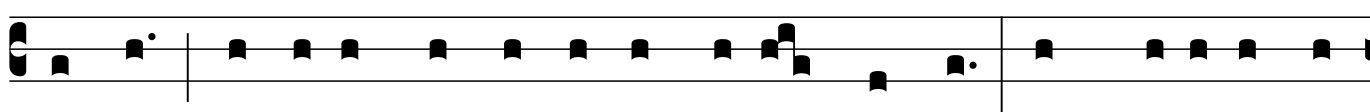
reason to be confi-dent in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth



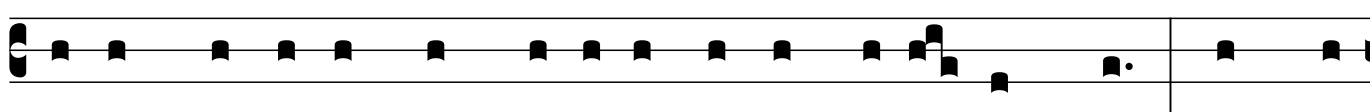
day, a member of the people of Isra- el, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew



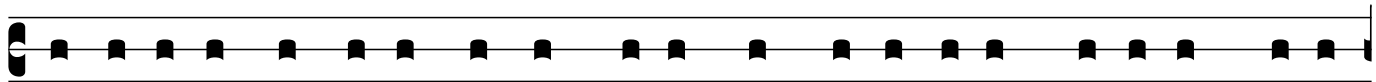
born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Phar-i-see; as to zeal, a perse-cu-tor of



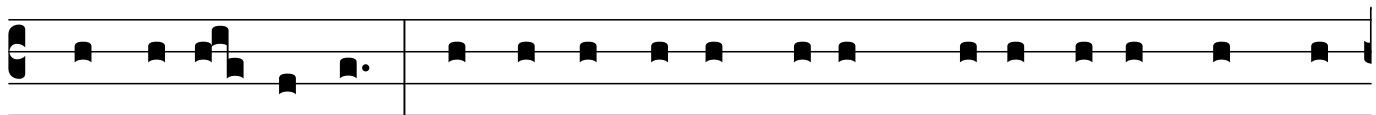
the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet what-ev-er gains



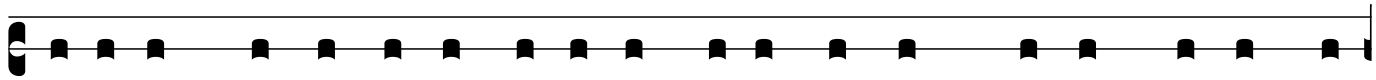
I had, these I have come to re-gard as loss because of Christ. More than



that, I re-gard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing



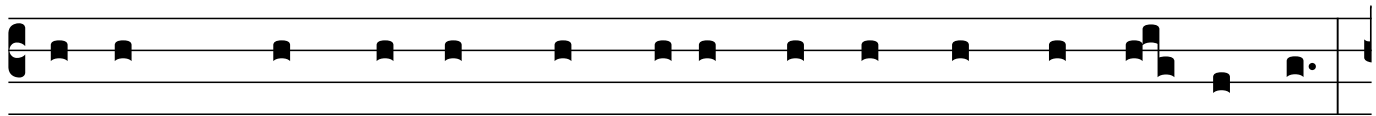
Christ Je-sus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and



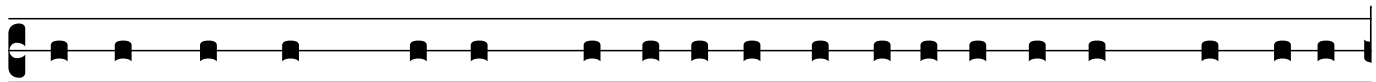
I re-gard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in



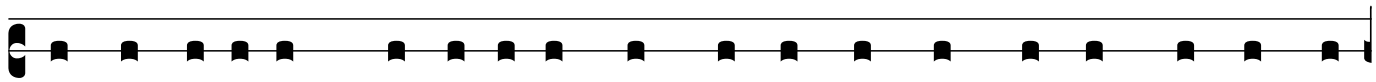
him, not hav-ing a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one



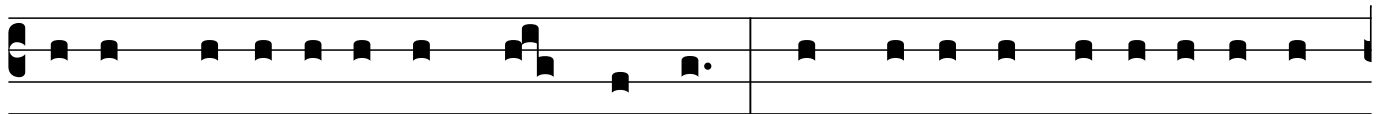
that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.



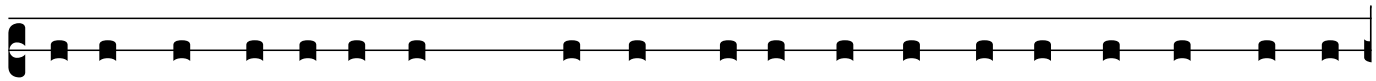
I want to know Christ and the power of his res-urrection and the shar-ing



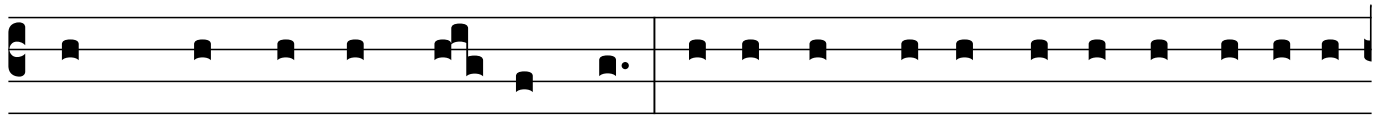
of his suffer-ings by be-coming like him in his death, if somehow I may



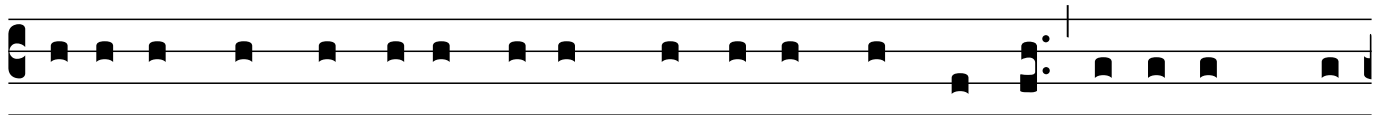
attain the res-urrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained



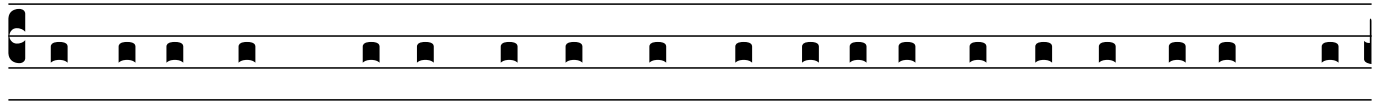
this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for



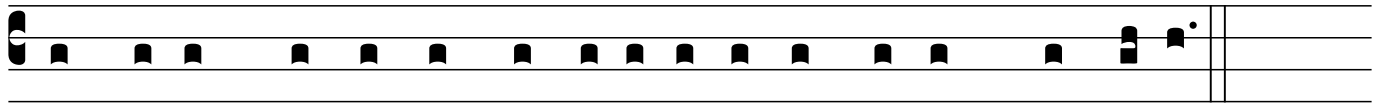
which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sis-ters, I do not consid-er



that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forget-ting what



lies be-hind and strain-ing forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the



goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Je-sus.