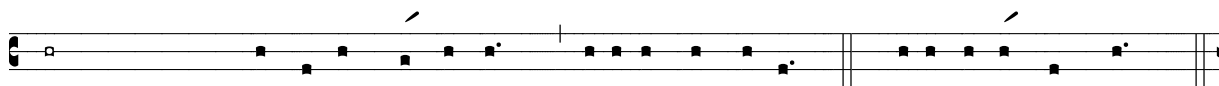


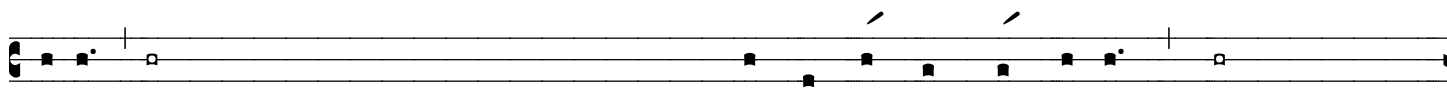
St. Stephen (Dec. 26) (ABC) — Matthew 23:34-39 (NRSV)



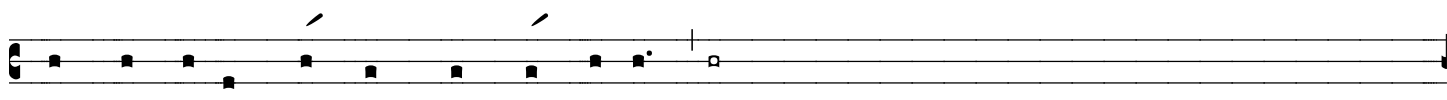
∇ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Je-sus Christ according to Matt-hew. ✠ *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*



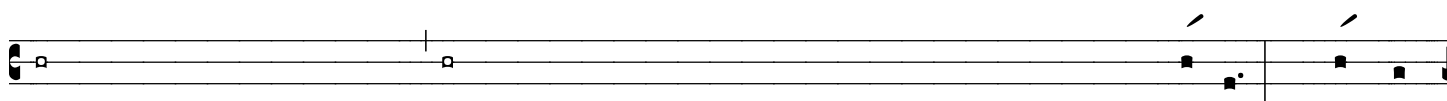
Je-sus said, “Therefore I send you pro-phets, sag-es, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and cru-



ci-fy, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pur-sue from town to town, <sup>35</sup> so that upon you



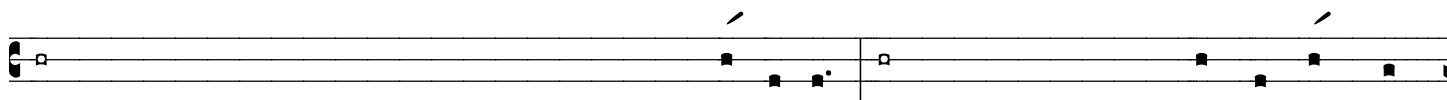
may come all the right-eous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of



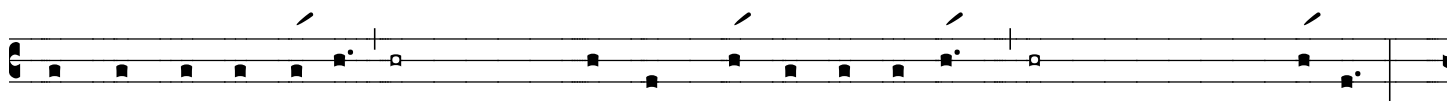
Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the al-tar. <sup>36</sup> Tru-ly



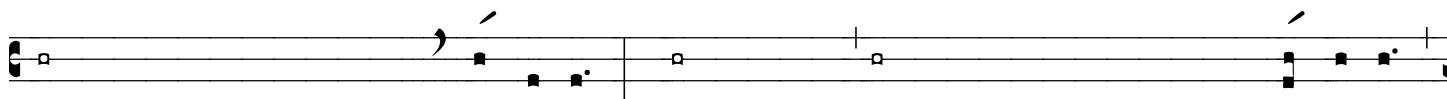
I tell you, all this will come upon this gener-a-tion. <sup>37</sup> “Je-ru-sa-lem, Je-ru-sa-lem, the city



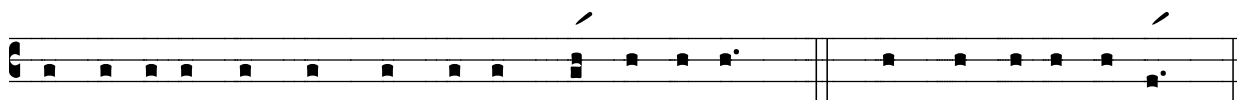
that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I de-sired to gath-er



your chil-dren to-geth-er as a hen gat-hers her brood un-der her wings, and you were not will-ing! <sup>38</sup>



See, your house is left to you, des-o-late. <sup>39</sup> For I tell you, you will not see me again un-til you say,



‘Bles-sed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’” ∇ The Gos-pel of the Lord.