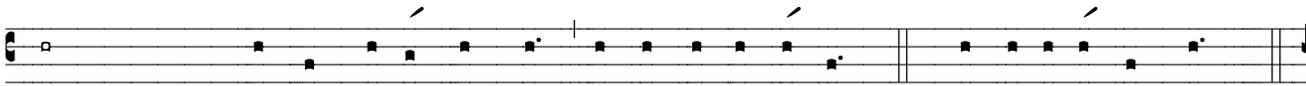
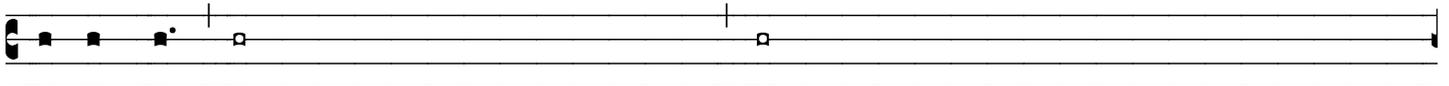


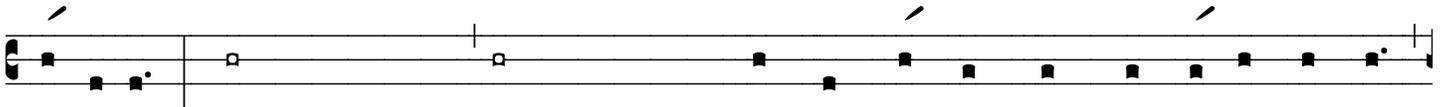
# Independence Day (July 4) ABC — Matthew 5:43-48 (NRSV)



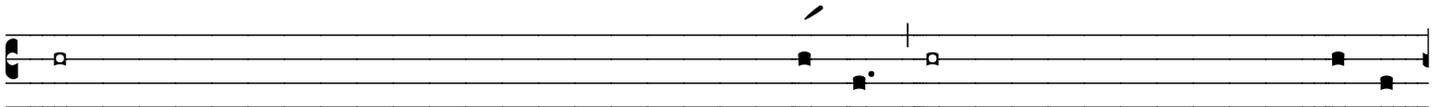
∇ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ ac-cord-ing to Mat-thew. ☩ *Glo-ry to you, Lord Christ.*



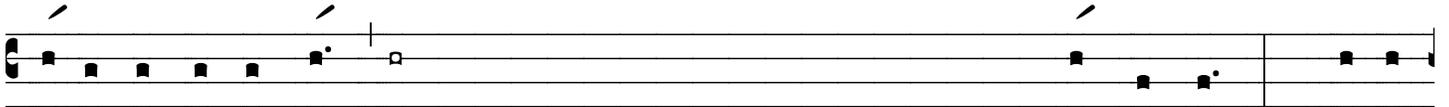
[Je-sus said] “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your



en- e-my.’ <sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your ene-mies and pray for those who per-se-cute you,



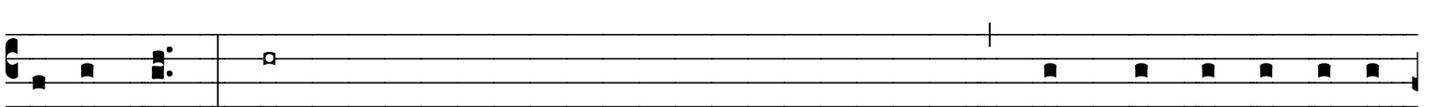
<sup>45</sup> so that you may be children of your Father in heav-en; for he makes his sun rise on the



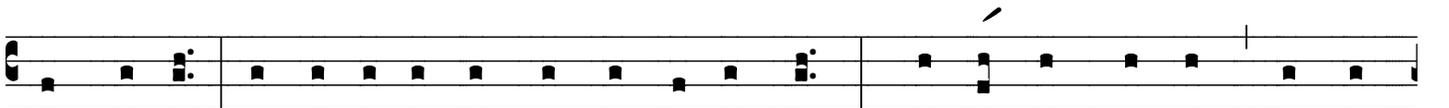
e-vil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the un-right-eous. <sup>46</sup> For if



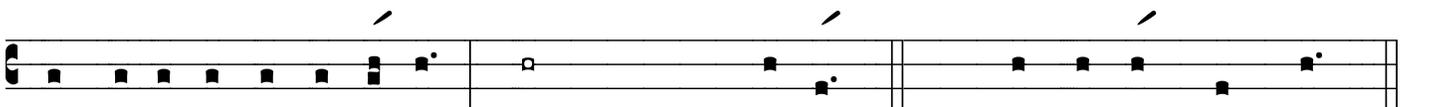
you love those who love you, what re-ward do you have? Do not e-ven the tax col-lect-ors



do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing



than oth-ers? Do not e-ven the Gen-tiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> Be per-fect, there-fore, as your



heav-en-ly Fa-ther is per-fect. ∇ The Gospel of the Lord. ☩ *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*