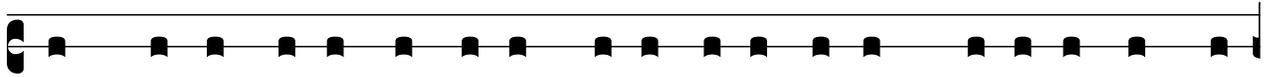
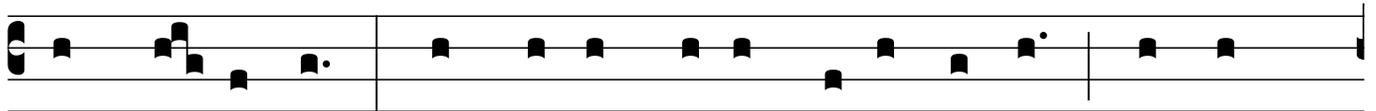


Acts 20:17-22, 25-28, 32, 36-38b

Ending of a Pastoral Relationship 3



From Miletus he sent a message to Ephe-sus, asking the elders of the



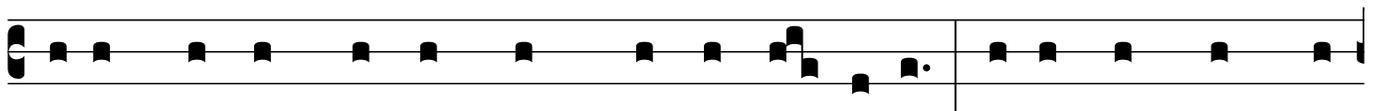
church to meet him. When they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves



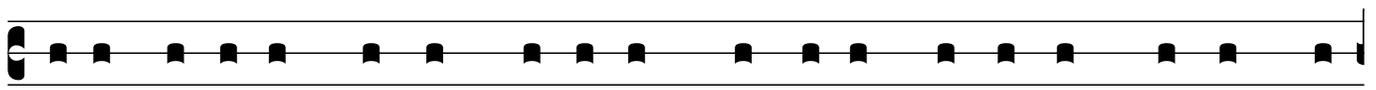
know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot



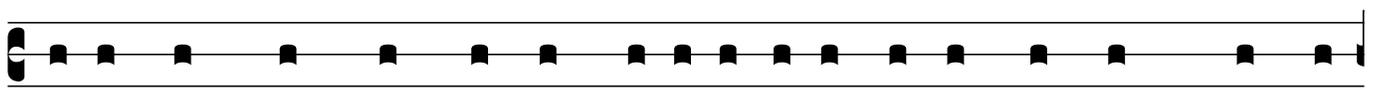
in Asia, serving the Lord with all humil- i-ty and with tears, endur-ing the



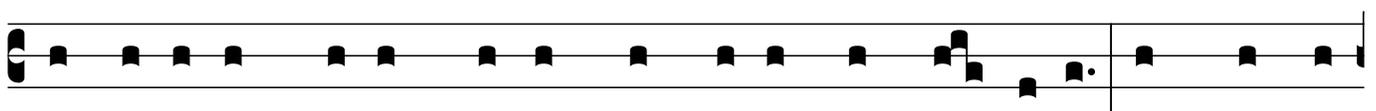
tri- als that came to me through the plots of the Jews. I did not shrink from



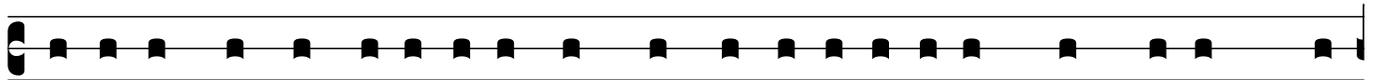
do- ing an-ything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you



publicly and from house to house, as I tes-ti-fied to both Jews and Greeks a-



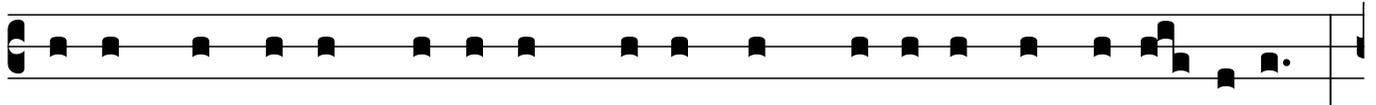
bout re-pentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Je-sus. And now, as



a captive to the Spir-it, I am on my way to Je-ru-sa-lem, not knowing what



will happen to me there,“And now I know that none of you, among whom



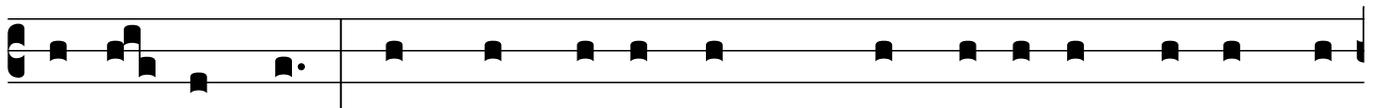
I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ev-er see my face again.



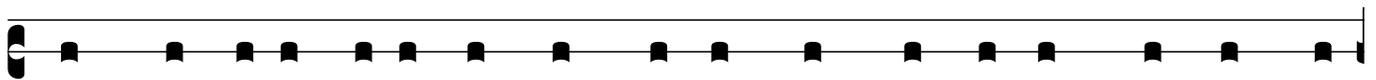
Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood



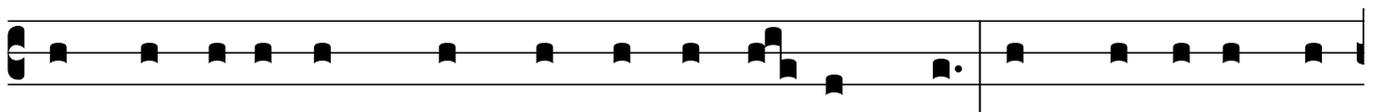
of an-y of you, for I did not shrink from declar-ing to you the whole



purpose of God. Keep watch o-ver yourselves and o-ver all the flock, of



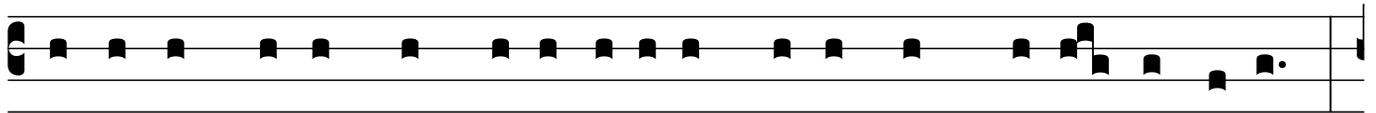
which the Ho-ly Spir-it has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of



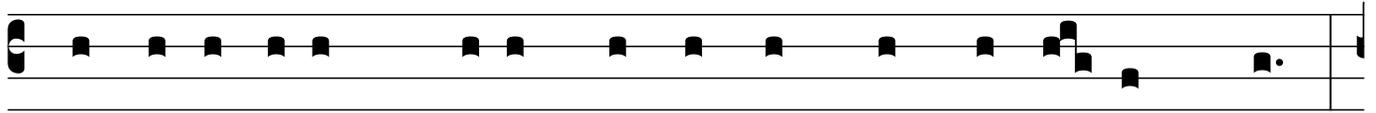
God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. And now I commend



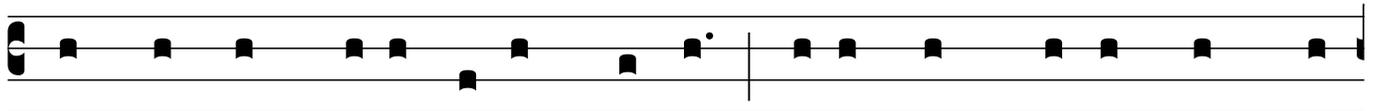
you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build



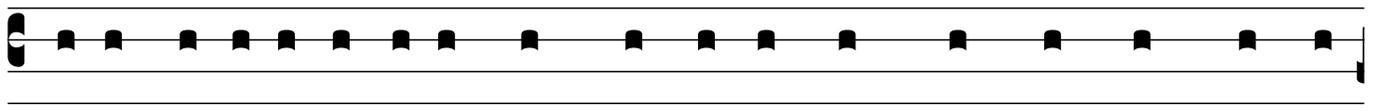
you up and to give you the inher-it-ance among all who are sancti-fied.



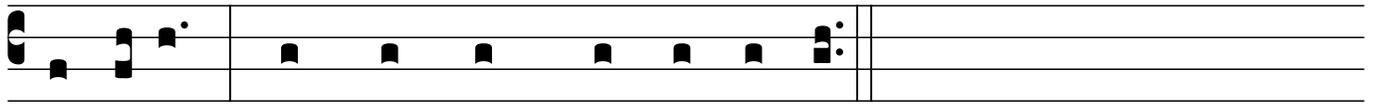
When he had fin-ished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed.



There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him,



griev-ing especial-ly because of what he had said, that they would not see



him again. Then they brought him to the ship.