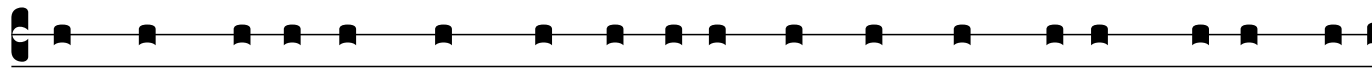


Genesis 7-8

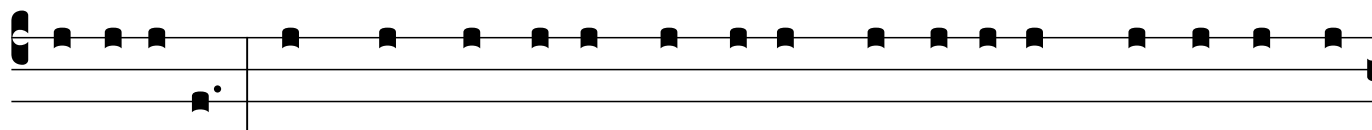
Vigil for the Eve of the Baptism of our Lord 1



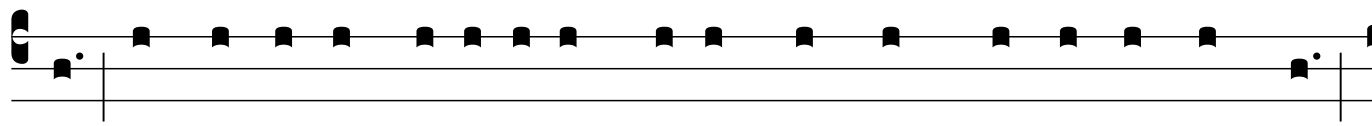
Then the Lord said to No-ah, "Go into the ark, you and all your



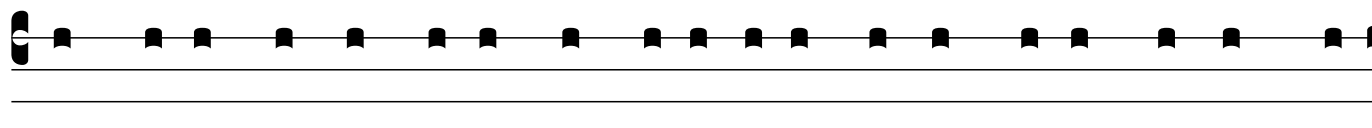
household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this



generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its



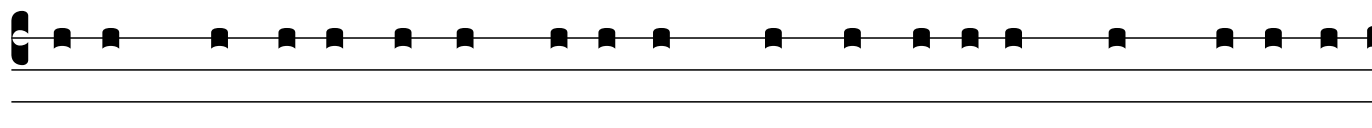
mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate;



and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their



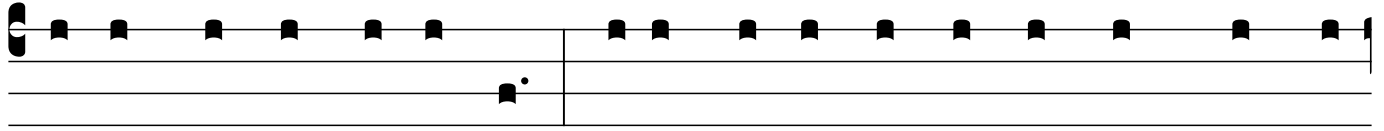
kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on



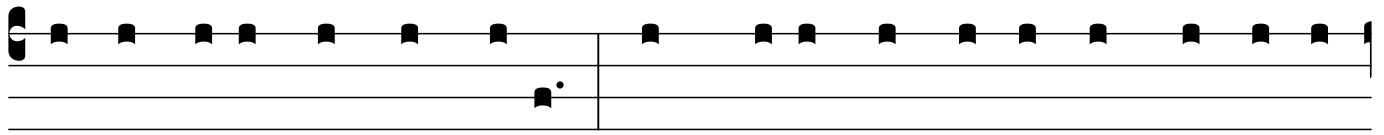
the earth for forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have



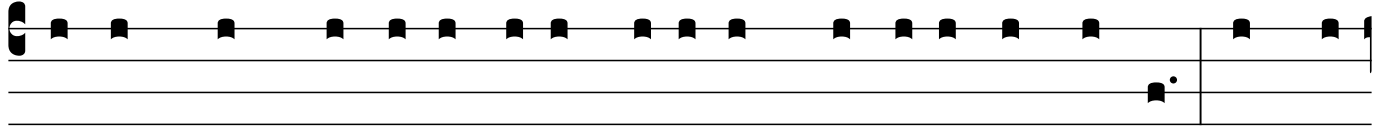
made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” And No- ah did all that



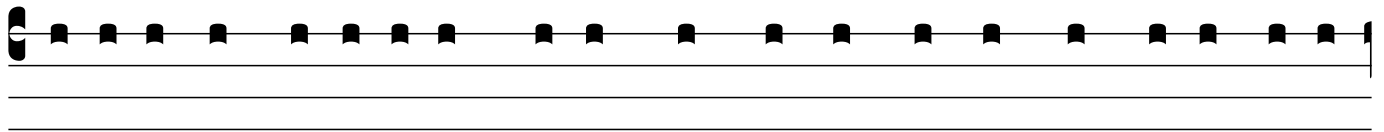
the Lord had commanded him. No- ah was six hundred years old when the



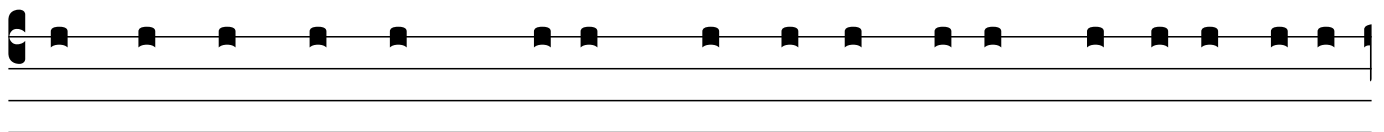
flood of wa- ters came on the earth. And No- ah with his sons and his wife and



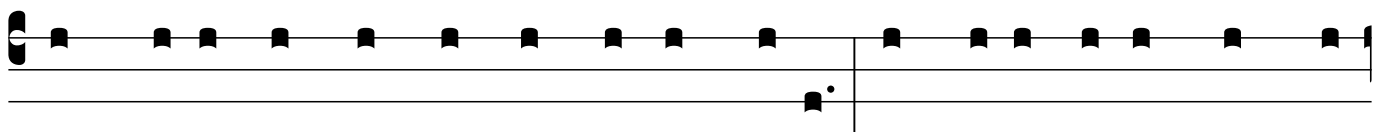
his sons’ wives went into the ark to escape the wa- ters of the flood. Of clean



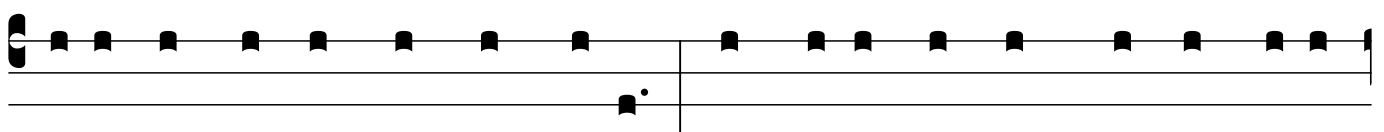
an-imals and of an-imals that are not clean and of birds and of everything



that creeps on the ground, two and two, male and female, went into the ark



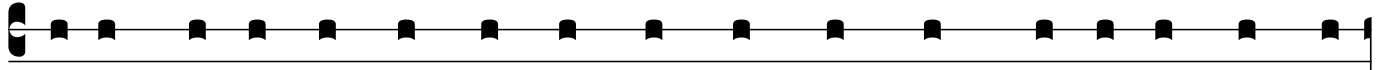
with No- ah, as God had commanded No- ah. And after sev- en days the



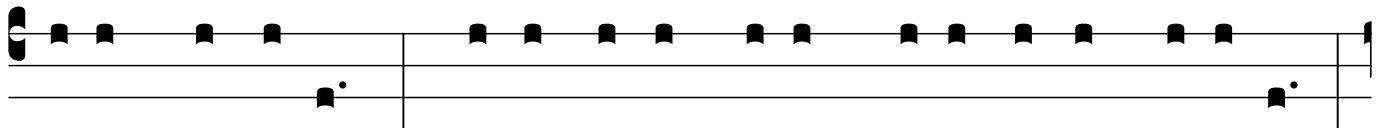
wa- ters of the flood came on the earth. In the six hundredth year of No- ah’s



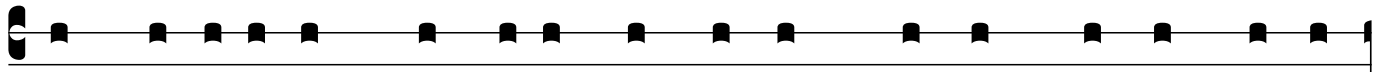
life, in the sec-ond month, on the sev-enteenth day of the month, on that



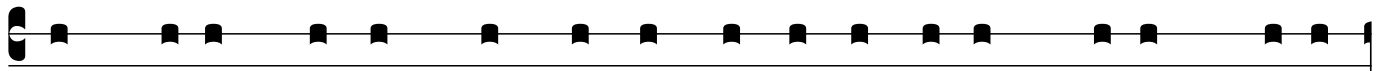
day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the



heavens were o-pened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.



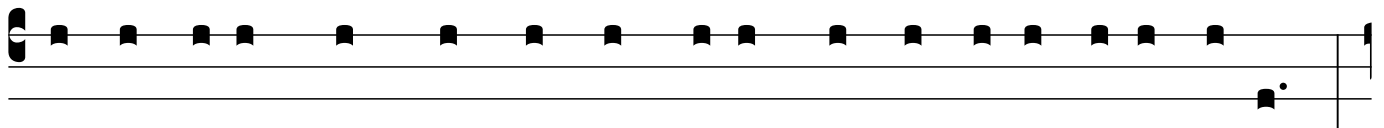
On the ver-y same day No- ah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth,



and No- ah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and



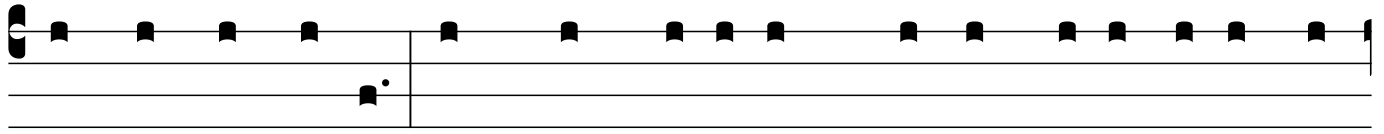
every wild an-imal of every kind and all domes-tic an-imals of every kind and



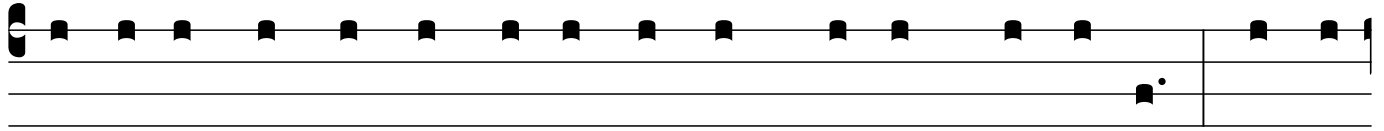
every creeping thing that creeps on the earth and every bird of every kind.



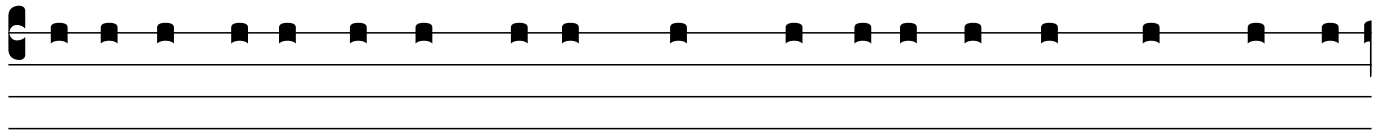
They went into the ark with No- ah, two and two of all flesh in which there



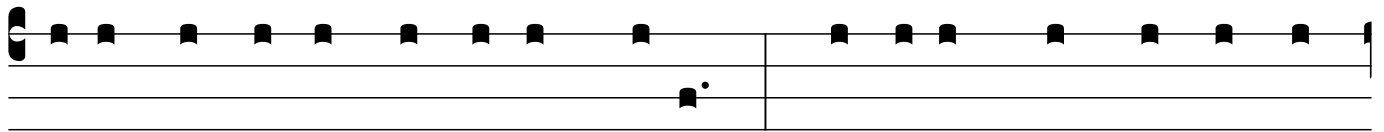
was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh,



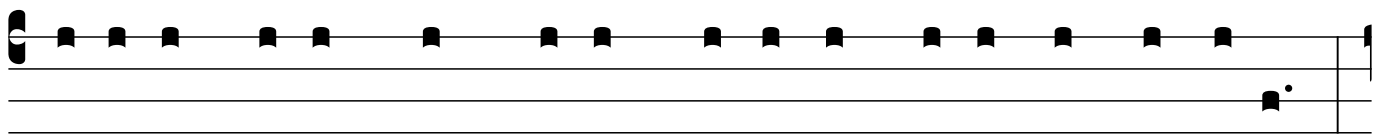
went in as God had commanded him, and the Lord shut him in. The flood



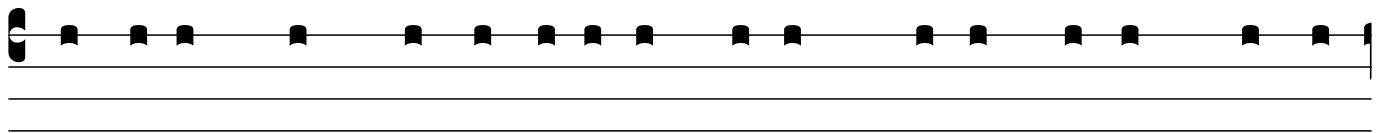
continued forty days on the earth, and the wa-ters increased and bore up



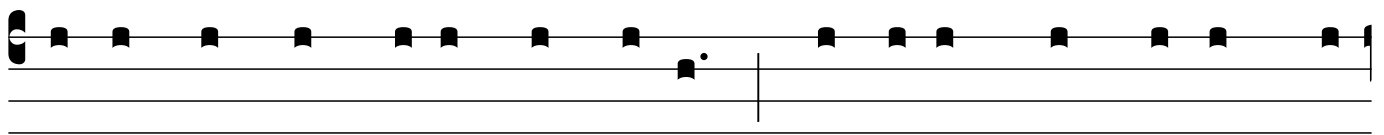
the ark, and it rose high a-bove the earth. The wa-ters swelled and increased



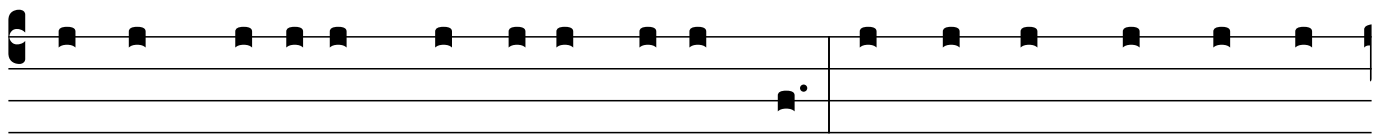
greatly on the earth, and the ark float-ed on the face of the wa-ters.



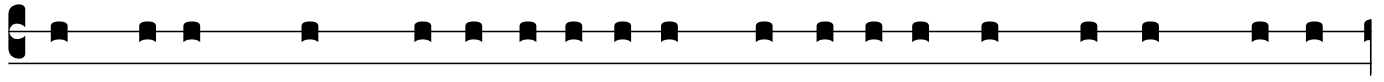
The wa-ters swelled so mighti-ly on the earth that all the high mountains



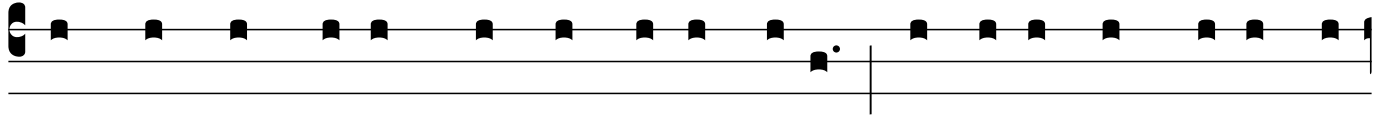
under the whole heaven were cov-ered; the wa-ters swelled a-bove the



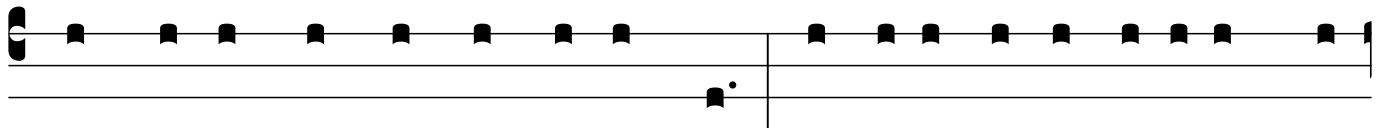
mountains, cov-er-ing them fifteen cu-bits deep. And all flesh died that moved



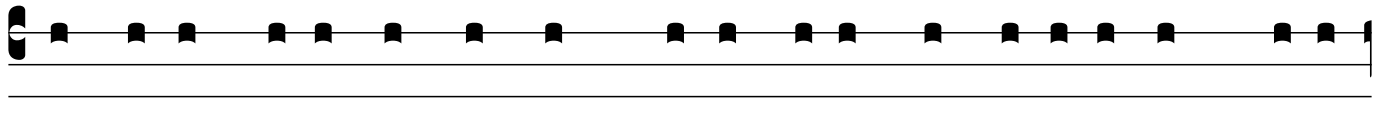
on the earth, birds, domes-tic an-imals, wild an-imals, all swarming crea-tures



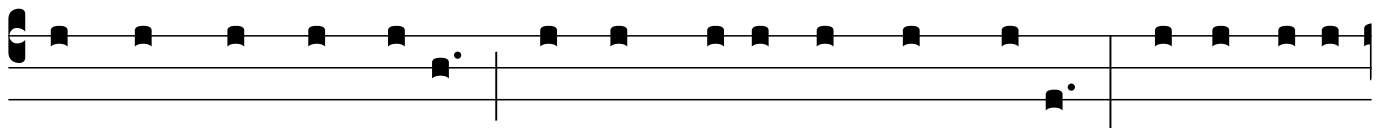
that swarm on the earth, and all human be- ings; everything on dry land in



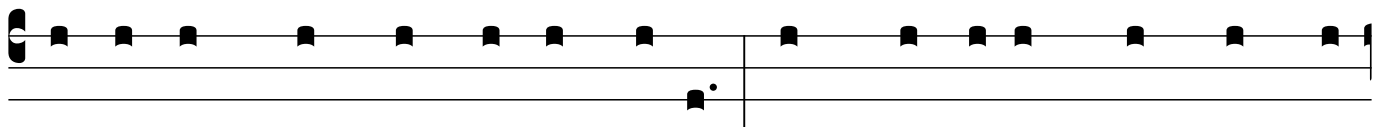
whose nostrils was the breath of life died. He blotted out every liv-ing thing



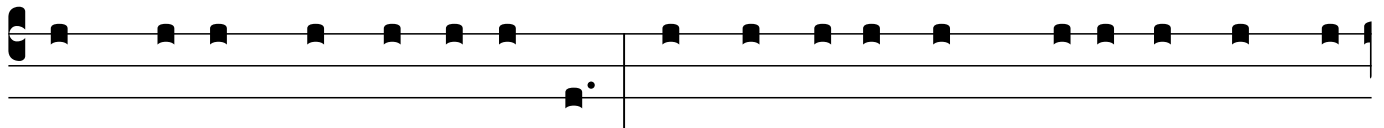
that was on the face of the ground, human be- ings and an-imals and creeping



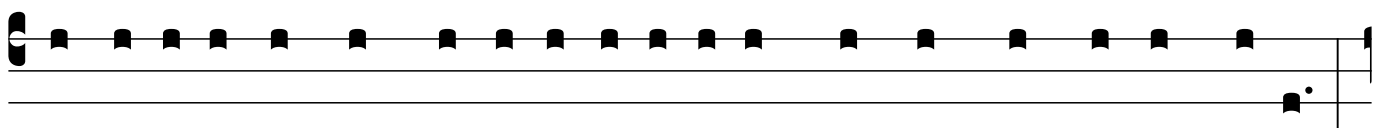
things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only No- ah



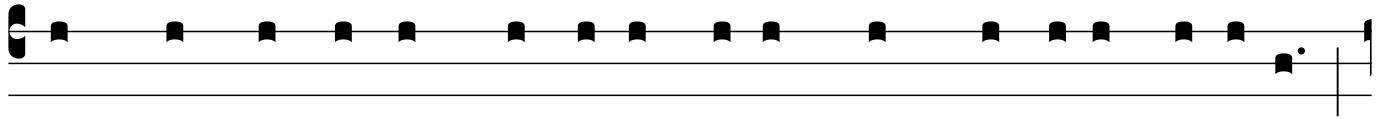
was left and those with him in the ark. And the wa-ters swelled on the



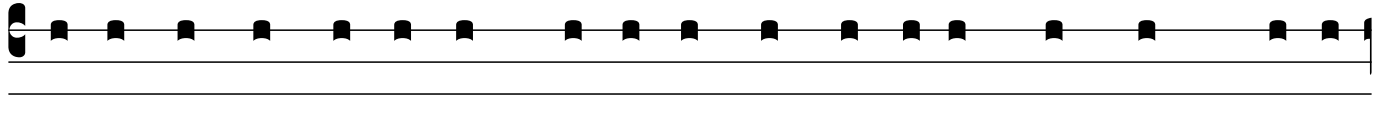
earth for one hundred fif-ty days. But God remembered No- ah and all the



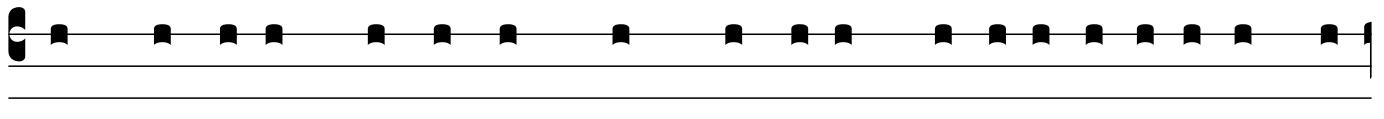
wild an-imals and all the domes-tic an-imals that were with him in the ark.



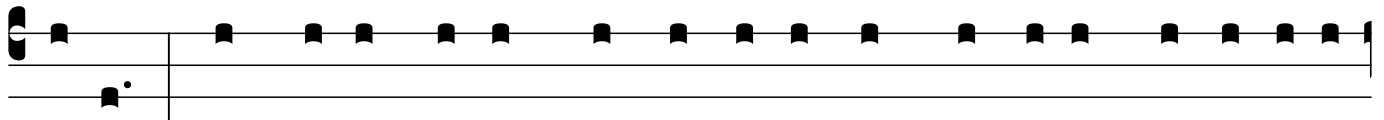
And God made a wind blow o-ver the earth, and the wa-ters subsid-ed;



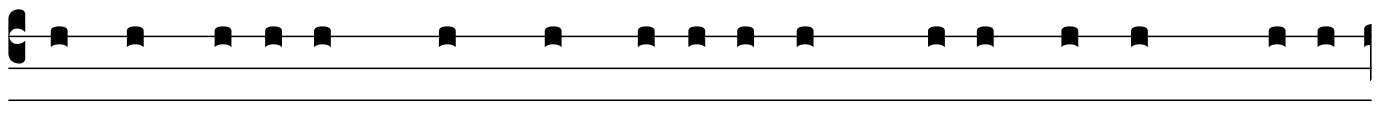
the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain



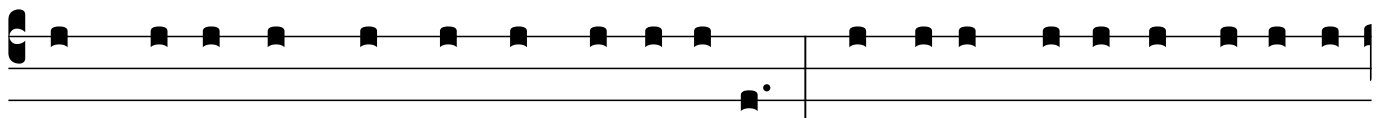
from the heavens was restrained, and the wa-ters grad-u- al-ly re-ced-ed from



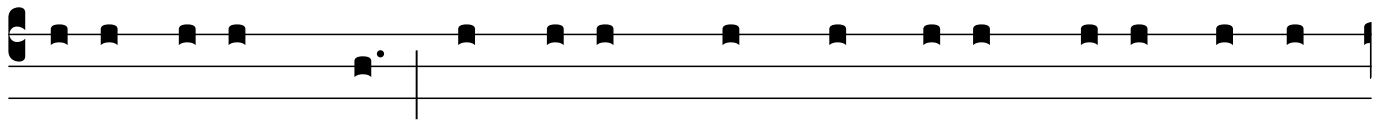
the earth. At the end of one hundred fif-ty days the wa-ters had a-bat-ed,



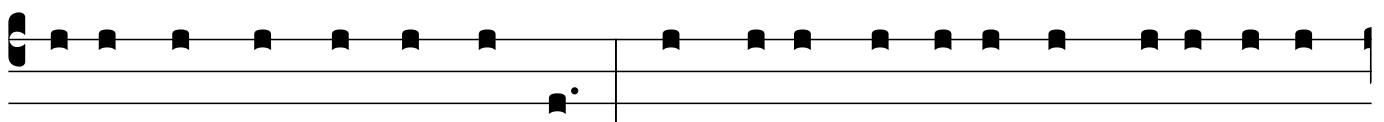
and in the sev-enth month, on the sev-enteenth day of the month, the ark



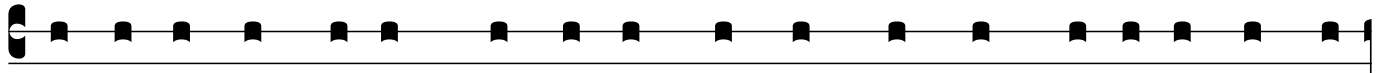
came to rest on the mountains of Ar-a-rat. The wa-ters continued to a-bate



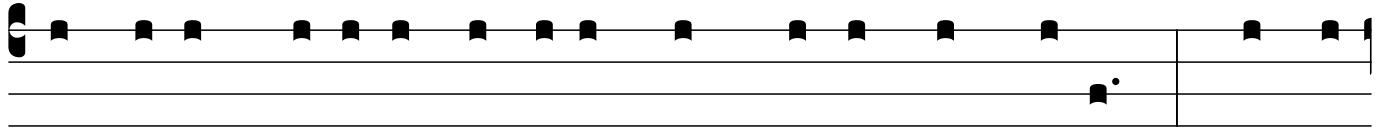
until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month,



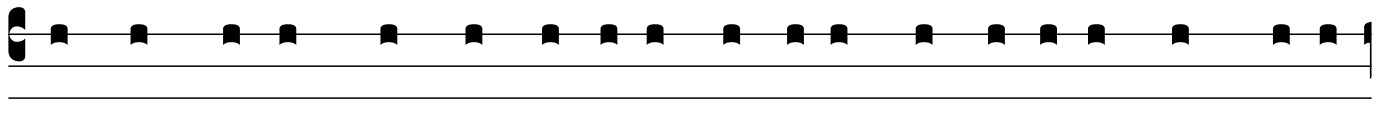
the tops of the mountains appeared. At the end of forty days No- ah o-pened



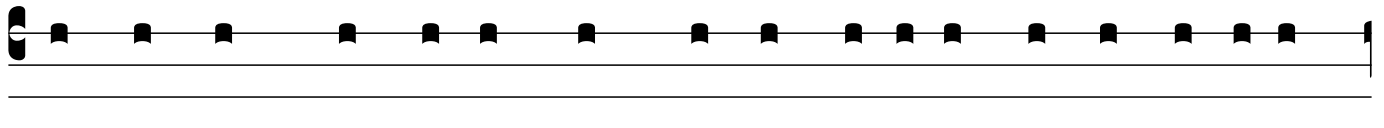
the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the ra-ven, and it



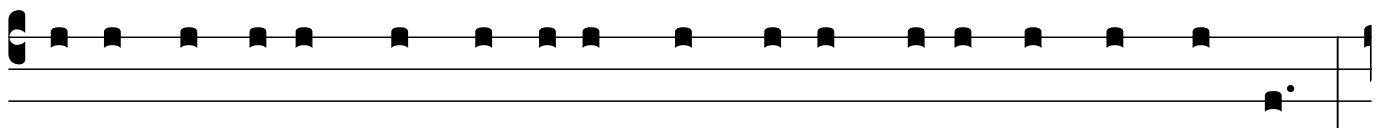
went to and fro until the wa-ters were dried up from the earth. Then he



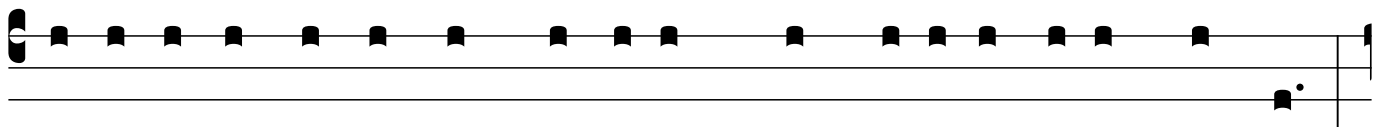
sent out the dove from him to see if the wa-ters had subsid-ed from the face



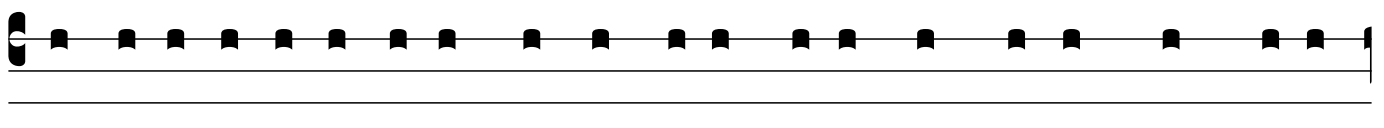
of the ground, but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it re-turned



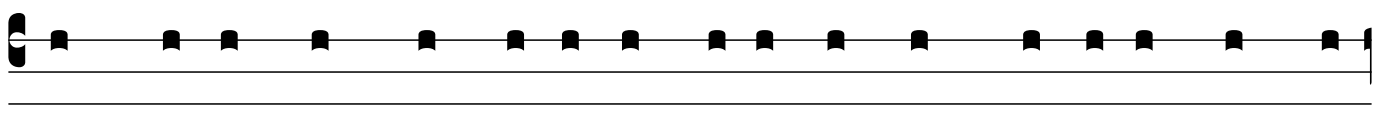
to him to the ark, for the wa-ters were still on the face of the whole earth.



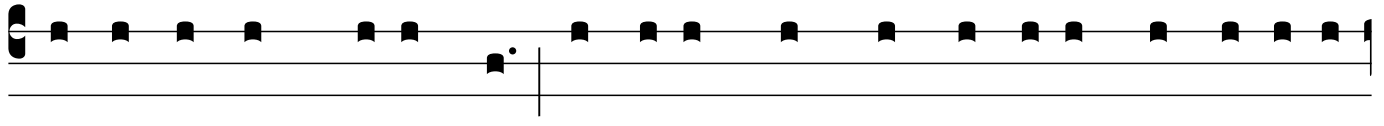
So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him.



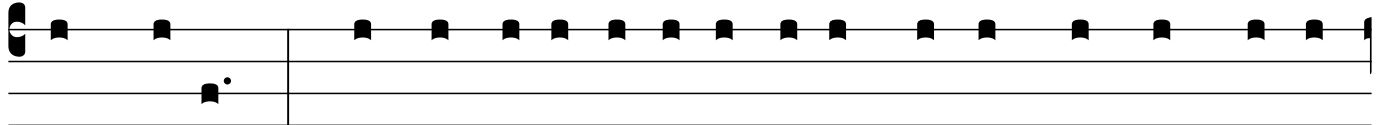
He wait-ed an-other sev-en days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark,



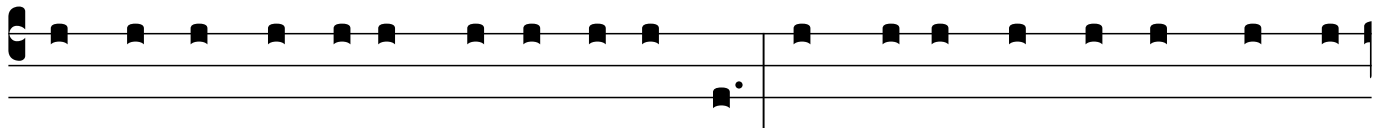
and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was



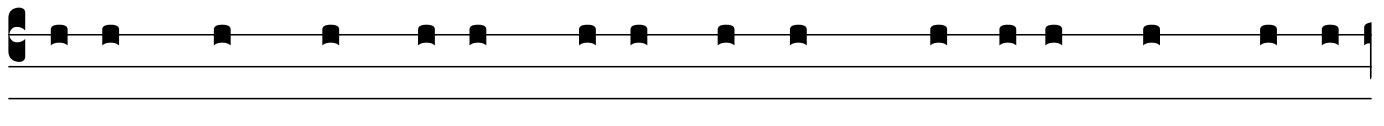
a freshly plucked ol-ive leaf; so No- ah knew that the wa-ters had subsid-ed



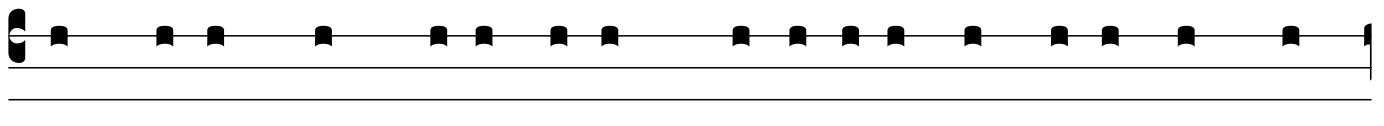
from the earth. Then he wait-ed an-other sev-en days and sent out the dove,



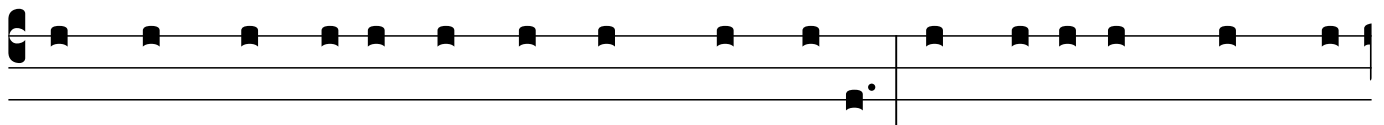
and it did not re-turn to him an-y more. In the six hundred first year, in



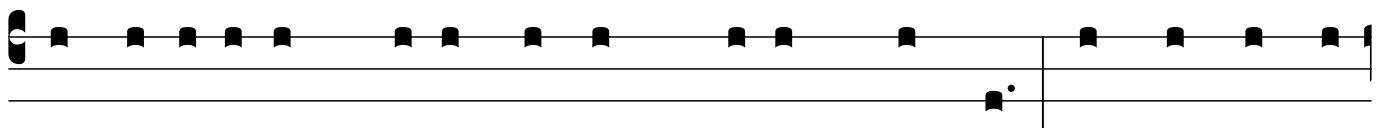
the first month, on the first day of the month, the wa-ters were dried up



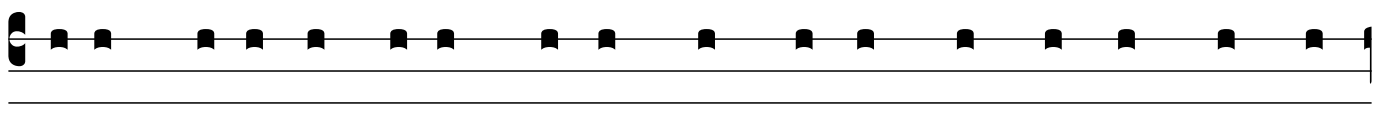
from the earth, and No- ah removed the cov-er-ing of the ark and looked



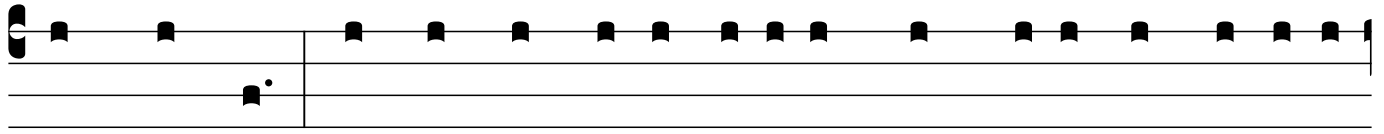
and saw that the face of the ground was dry- ing. In the sec-ond month, on



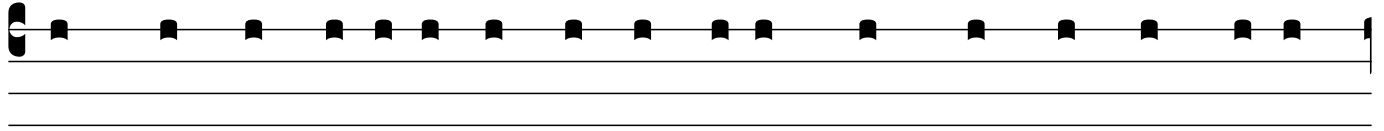
the twenty-sev-enth day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to



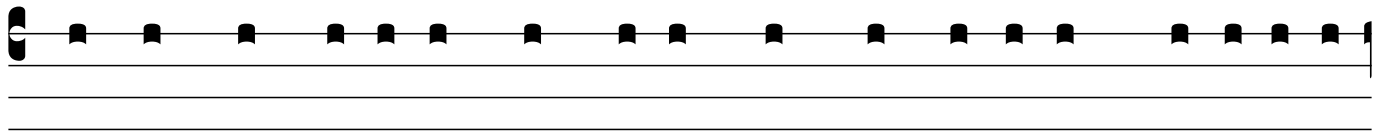
No- ah, “Go out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and your sons’



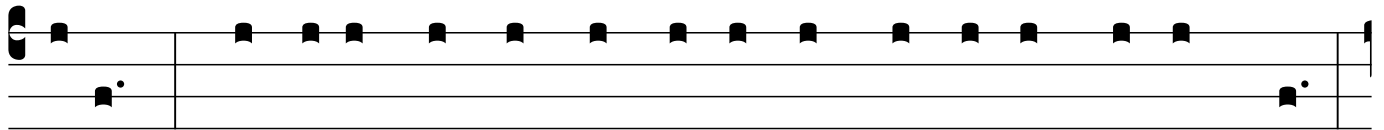
wives with you. Bring out with you every liv-ing thing that is with you of all



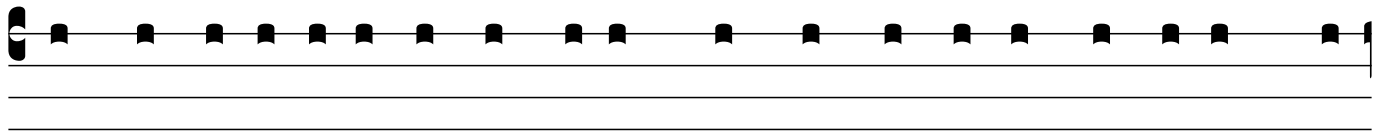
flesh—birds and an-imals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth-



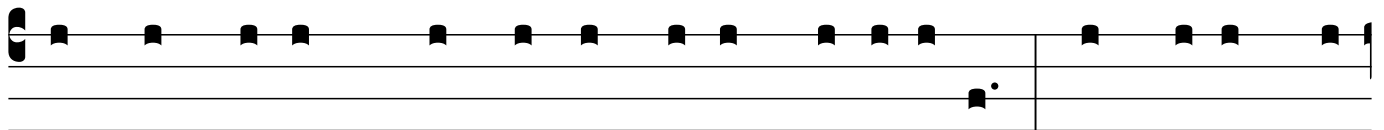
—so that they may abound on the earth and be fruit-ful and mul-tiply on



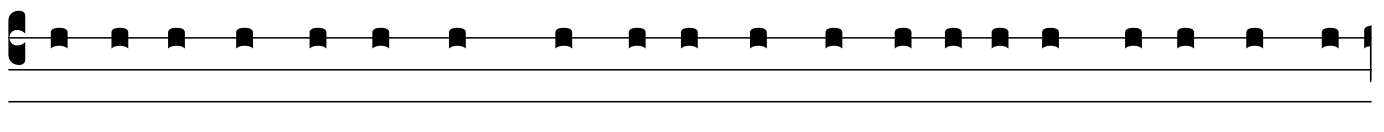
the earth.” So No- ah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives.



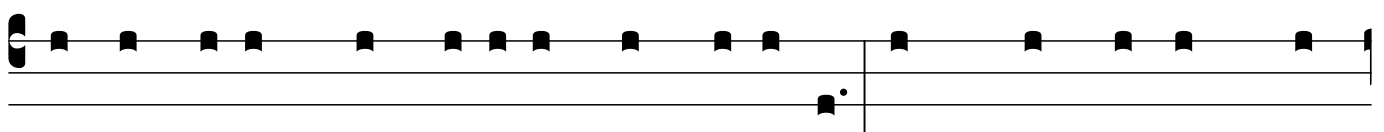
And every an-imal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that



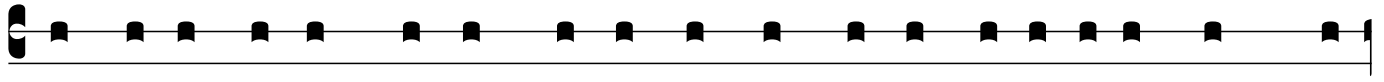
moves on the earth, went out of the ark by fami-lies. Then No- ah built



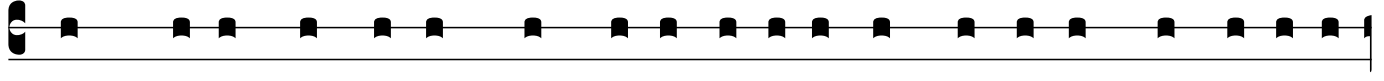
an al-tar to the Lord and took of every clean an-imal and of every clean



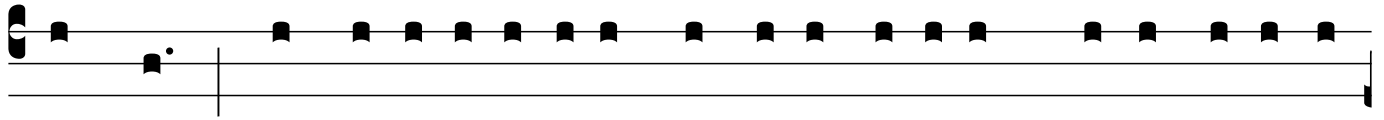
bird and offered burnt offer-ings on the al-tar. And when the Lord smelled



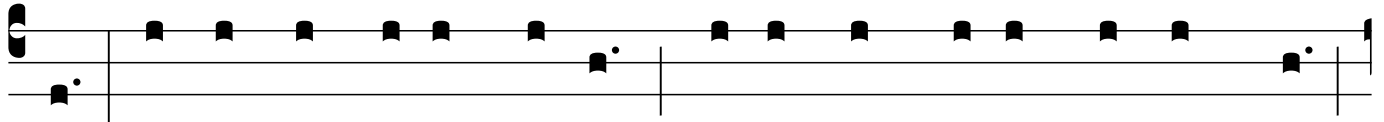
the pleas-ing o-dor, the Lord said in his heart, "I will nev-er again curse the



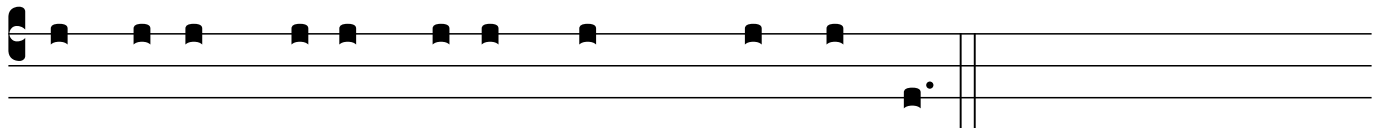
ground because of humans, for the incli-nation of the human heart is e-vil



from youth; nor will I ev-er again destroy every liv-ing crea-ture as I have



done. As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,



summer and winter, day and night shall not cease."