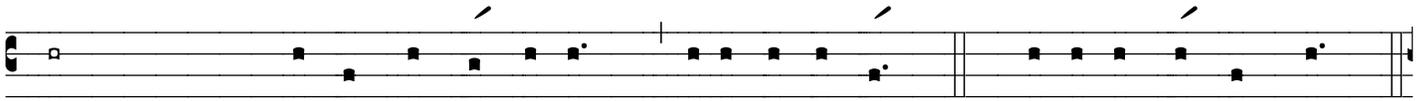
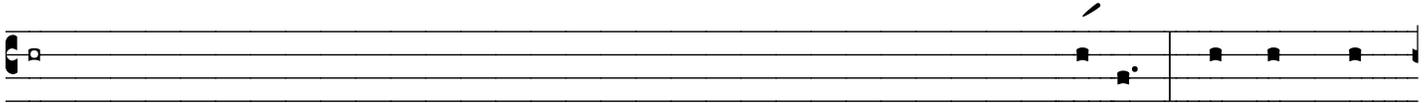


Lent 4 (Year C)  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (NRSV)



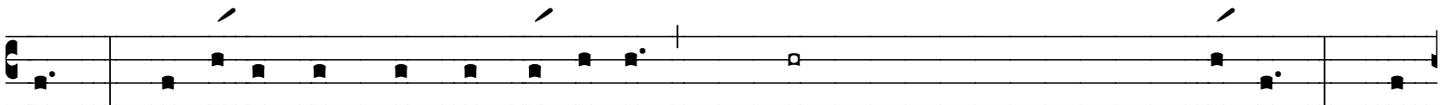
✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ according to Luke. ✠ *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*



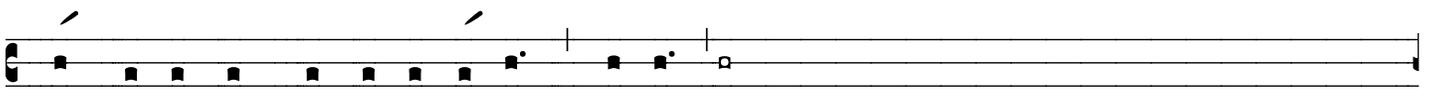
[Now] all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Je-sus. <sup>2</sup> And the Phar -



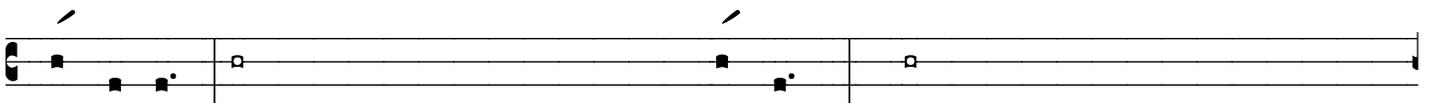
isees and the scribes were grum-bling and say-ing, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with



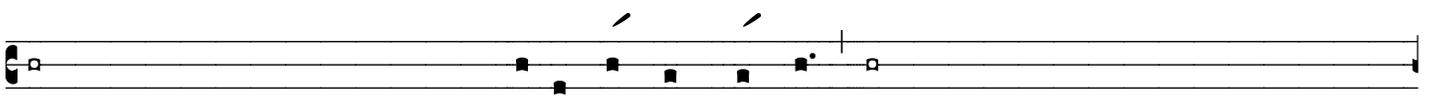
them.” <sup>3</sup> So Je-sus told them this par- a - ble: ... <sup>[11]</sup> “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The



youn-ger of them said to his fa - ther, ‘Fa-ther, give me the share of the property that will be -



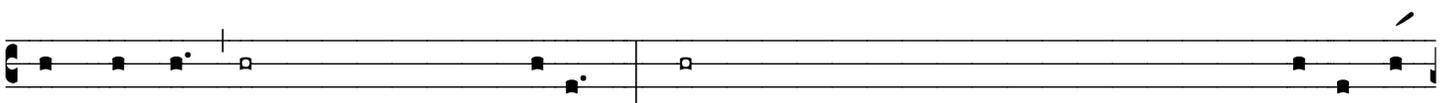
long to me.’ So he divided his property be-tween them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son



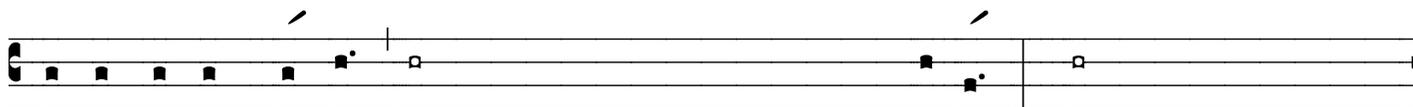
gathered all he had and traveled to a dis-tant coun-try, and there he squandered his property



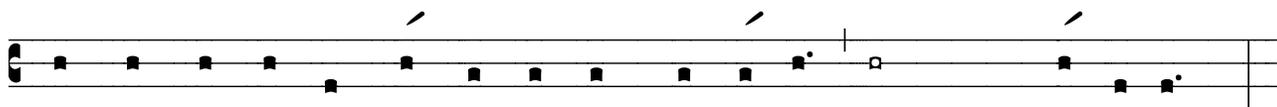
in dissolute liv-ing. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent ev-'ry-thing, a severe famine took place throughout



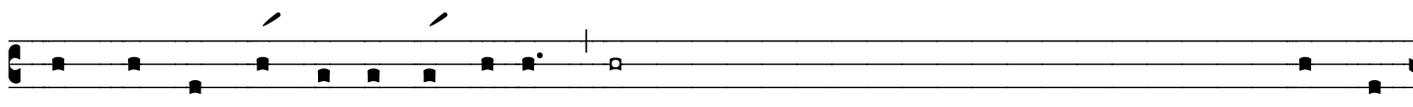
that coun-try, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the cit-



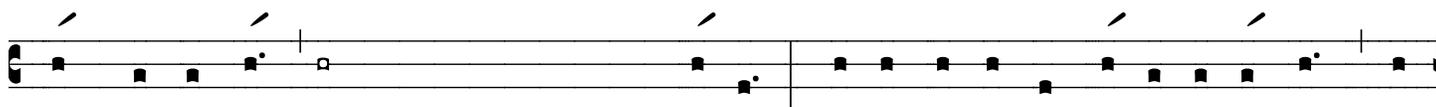
i-zens of that coun-try, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have



filled him-self with the pods that the pigs were eat - ing; and no one gave him an - y - thing. <sup>17</sup>



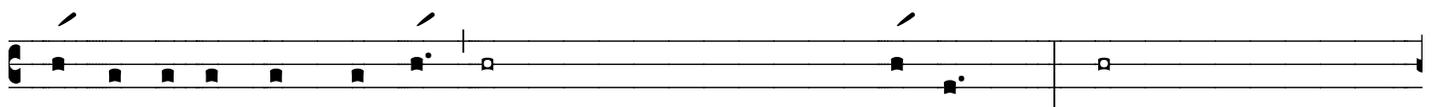
But when he came to him-self he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread e -



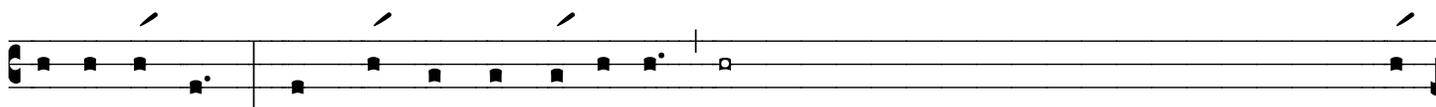
nough and to spare, but here I am dy-ing of hun-ger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my fa- ther, and



I will say to him, “Fa-ther, I have sinned a-against heav- en and be-fore you; <sup>19</sup> I am no lon-ger



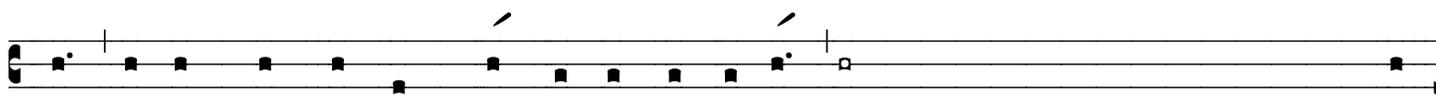
wor-thy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.” <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went



to his fa - ther. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with com-pas -



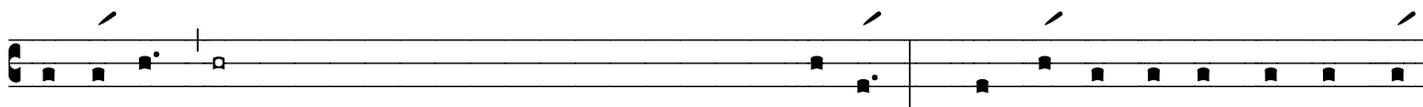
sion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, ‘Fa -



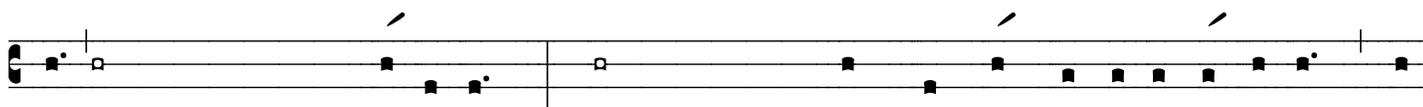
ther, I have sinned a-against heav- en and be-fore you; I am no longer worthy to be called your



son.’ 22 But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quick-ly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put



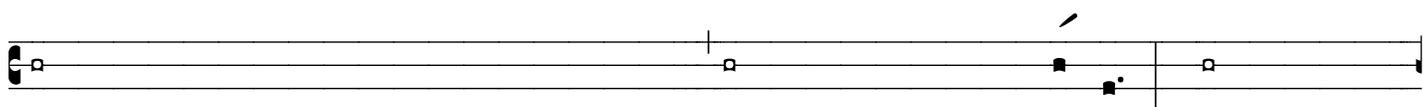
it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 And get the fat-ted calf and kill



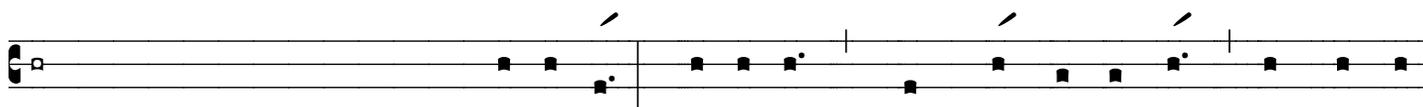
it, and let us eat and cel-e-brate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and is a-live a-gain; he



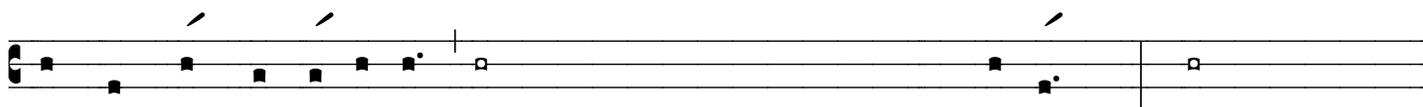
was lost and is found!’ And they began to cel-e-brate. 25 “Now his el-der son was in the field;



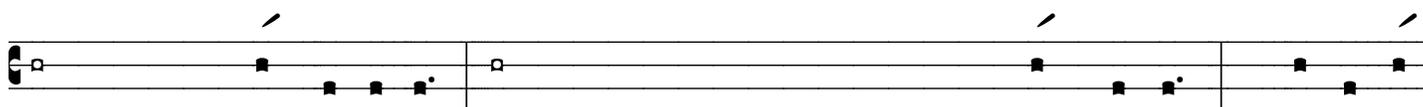
and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and danc-ing. 26 He called one of



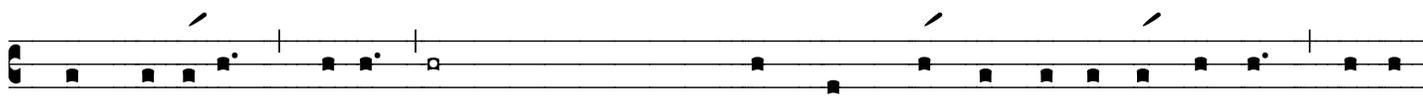
the slaves and asked what was go-ing on. 27 He re-plied, ‘Your broth-er has come, and your fa-



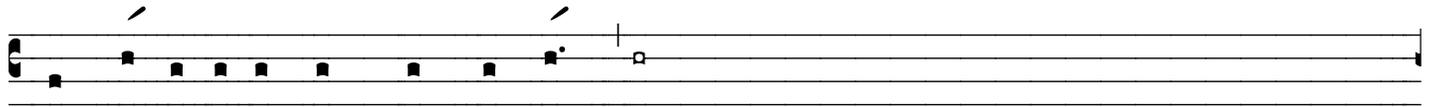
ther has killed the fat-ted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ 28 Then he became



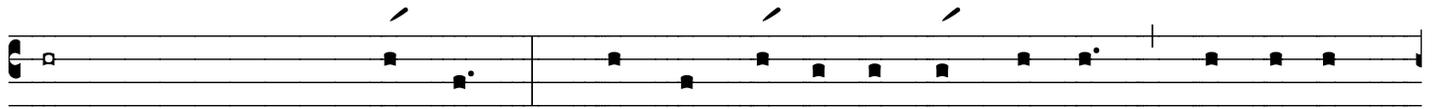
angry and re-fused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29 But he an-



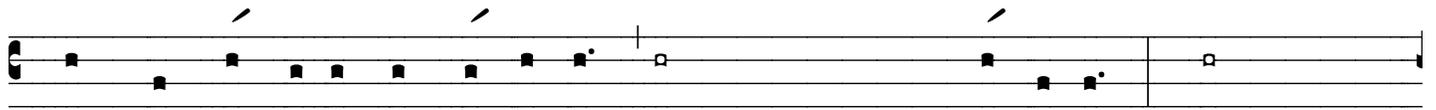
swered his fa-ther, ‘Lis-ten! For all these years I have been work-ing like a slave for you, and I



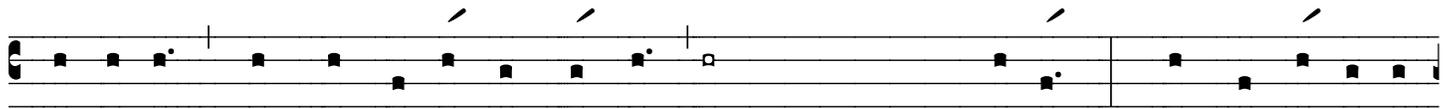
‘have nev-er dis-o-beyed your com-mand; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that



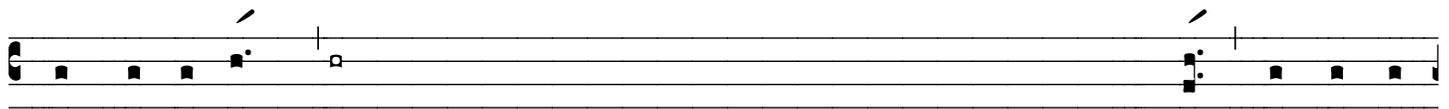
I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has de -



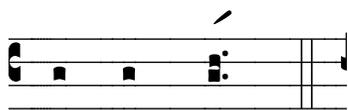
voured your prop-er-ty with pros-ti - tutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> Then the father



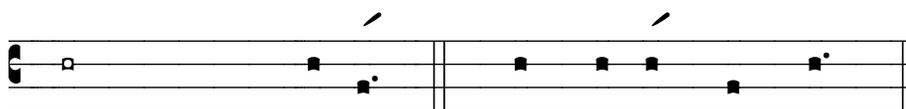
said to him, ‘Son, you are al-ways with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to cel -



brate and re - joice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost



has been found.’”



✠ The Gospel of the Lord. ✠ Praise to you, Lord Christ.