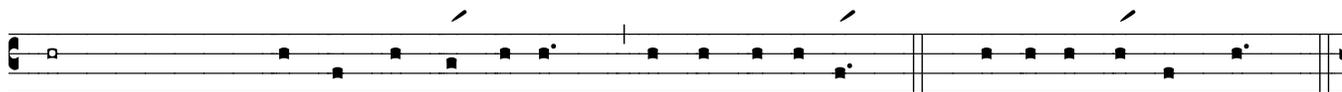


The Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24) (ABC RCL)  
Luke 1:57-80 (NRSV)



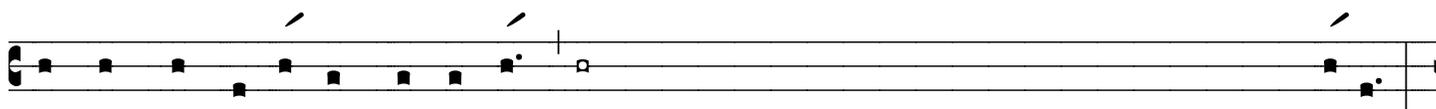
∇ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ ac-cord-ing to Luke. ✠ *Glo-ry to you, Lord Christ.*



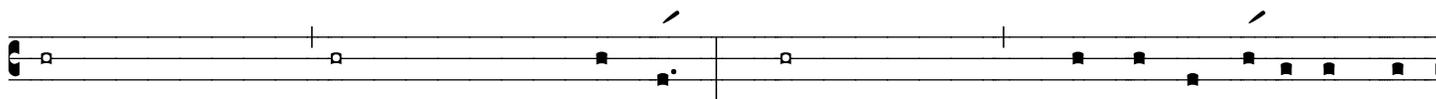
57 Now the time came for E-liz-a-beth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives



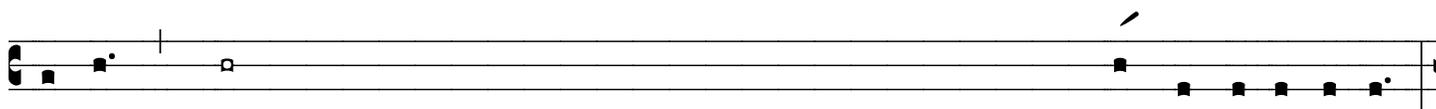
heard that the Lord had shown his great mer-cy to her, and they re-joiced with her. 59 On the eighth



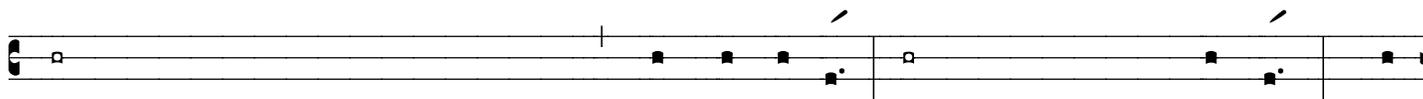
day they came to cir-cum-cise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his fa-ther.



60 But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." 61 They said to her, "None of your rel-a-tives has



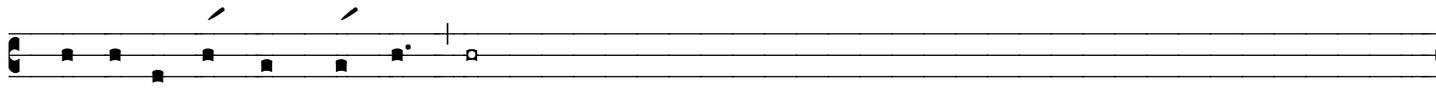
this name." 62 Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he want-ed to give him.



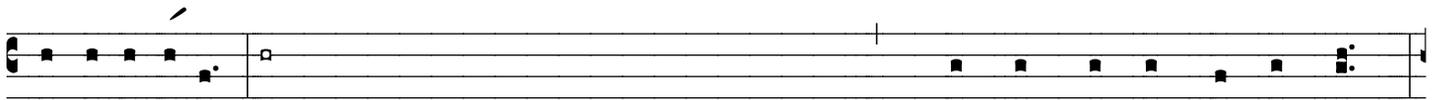
63 He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were a-mazed. 64 Im -



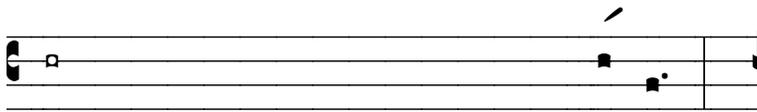
mediately his mouth was o-pened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, prais-ing God. 65 Fear



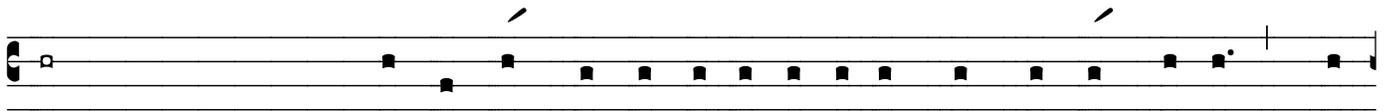
came o-ver all their neigh-bors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill coun -



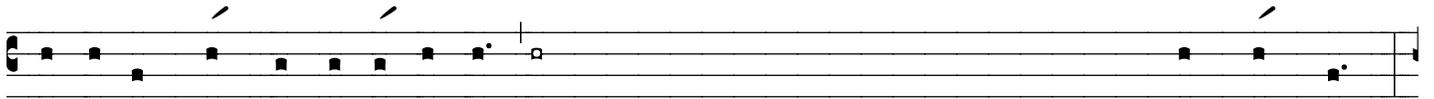
try of Ju-de-a. 66 All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child be-come?”



For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.



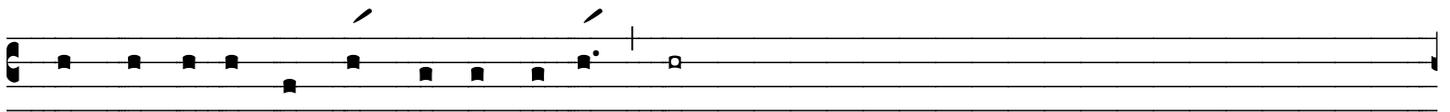
67 Then his father Zechari-ah was filled with the Ho-ly Spir-it and spoke this proph-e - cy: 68 “Bles-



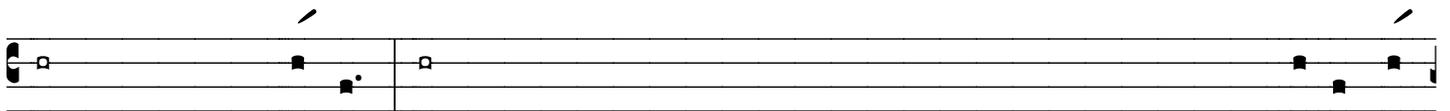
sed be the Lord God of Is - ra - el, for he has looked favorably on his people and re-deemed them.



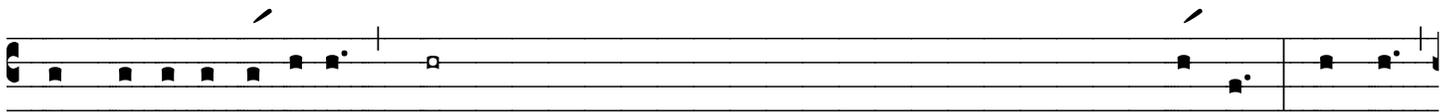
69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his ser-vant Da-vid, 70 as he spoke through the



mouth of his ho - ly proph-ets from of old, 71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the



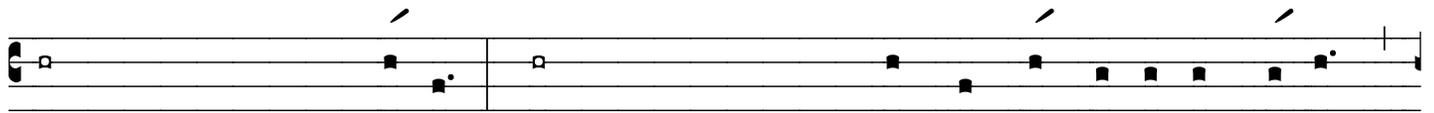
hand of all who hate us. 72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has re-mem-



bered his ho-ly cov-e-nant, 73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us 74 that we,



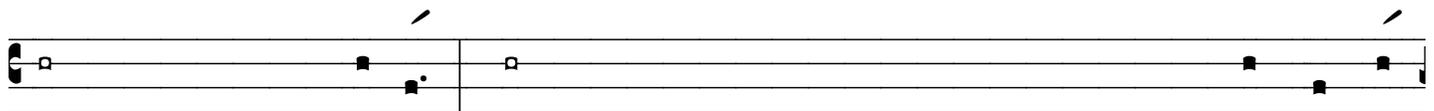
being rescued from the hands of our ene-mies, might serve him with-out fear, 75 in holiness and right -



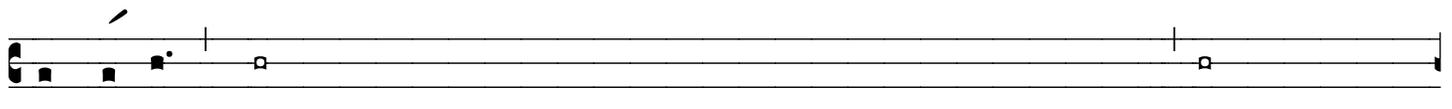
eousness before him all our days. *76* And you, child, will be called the proph-et of the Most High;



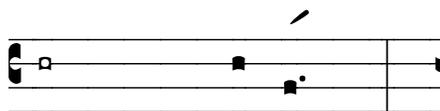
for you will go before the Lord to pre-pare his ways, *77* to give knowledge of salvation to his people



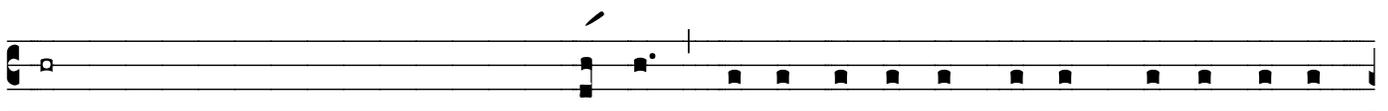
by the forgiveness of their sins. *78* By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break



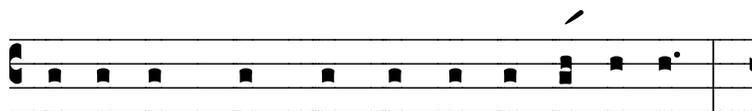
up - on us, *79* to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet



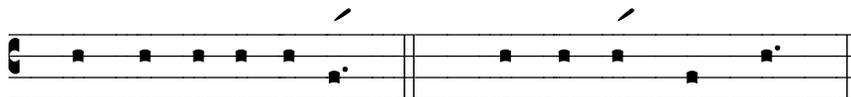
into the way of peace.”



*80* The child grew and became strong in spir - it, and he was in the wild - er - ness un - til the



day he ap - peared pub - lic - ly to Is - ra - el.



*V*. The Gos-pel of the Lord. *R*. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*