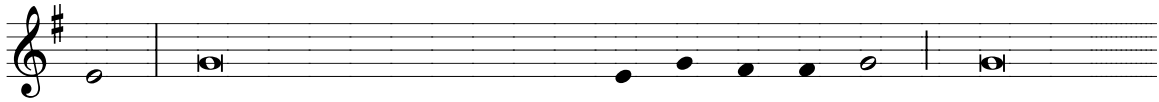


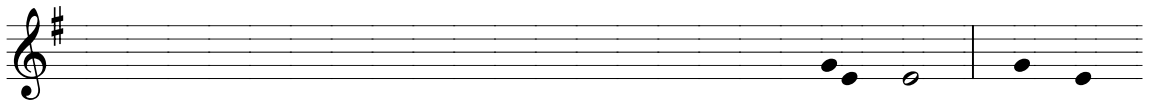




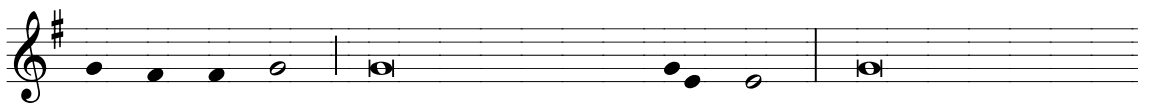
forward to the consolation of Is- ra- el, and the Holy Spirit rested on



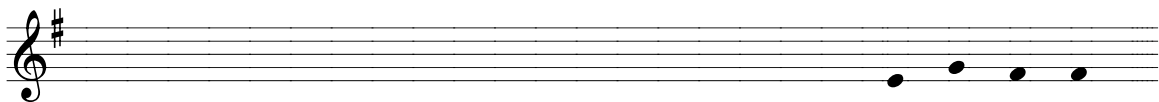
him. It had been revealed to him by the Ho- ly Spir- it that he



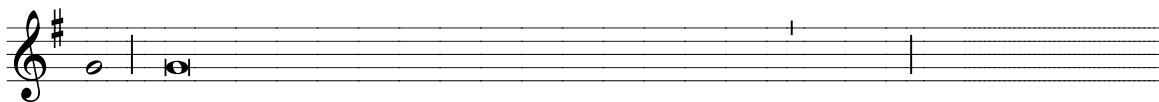
would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Mes- si- ah. Guid-ed



by the Spir- it, Simeon came into the tem- ple; and when the parents



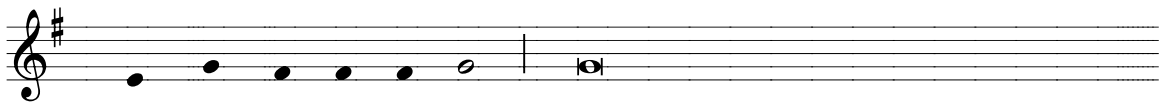
brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customa-ry un- der the



law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now



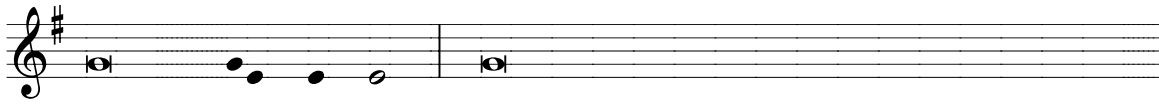
you are dismissing your ser- vant in peace, according to your word; for my



eyes have seen your sal- va- tion, which you have prepared in the presence



of all peo- ples, a light for revela- tion to the Gen- tiles and for glory to



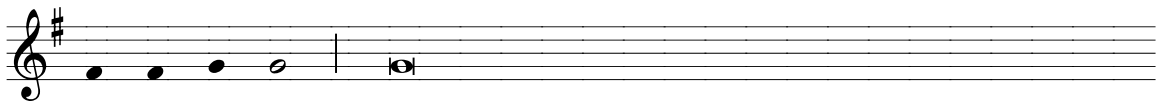
your people Is- ra- el.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed



at what was being said a-bout him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to



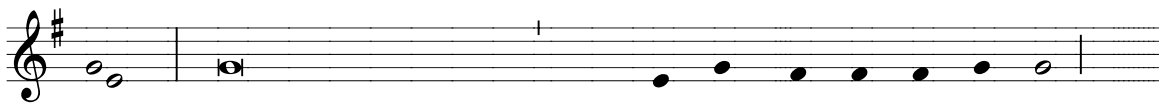
his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of ma- ny



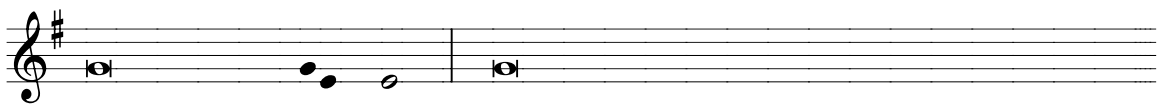
in Is- ra- el, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner



thoughts of many will be re-vealed— and a sword will pierce your own soul



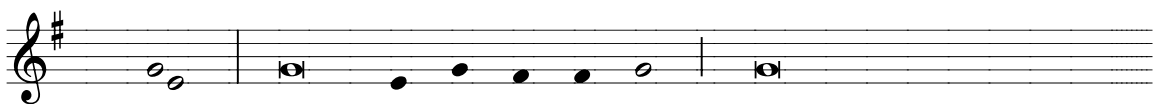
too.” There was also a prophet, Anna the daugh-ter of Phan- u- el,



of the tribe of Ash- er. She was of great age, having lived with her



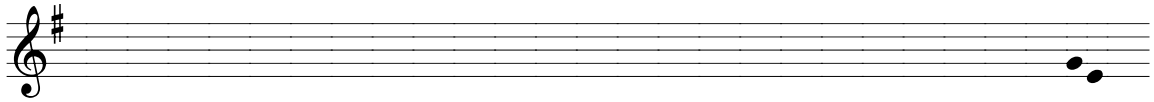
husband seven years af- ter her mar-riage, then as a widow to the age of



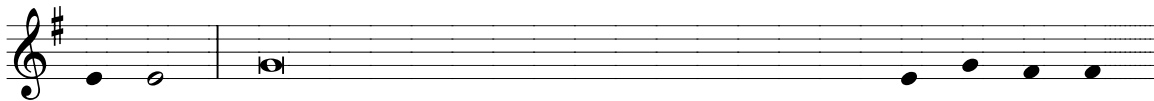
eighty-four. She nev- er left the tem- ple but worshiped there with



fasting and prayer night and day. At that mo-ment she came, and began



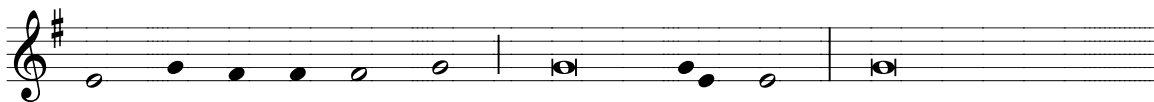
to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Je- ru-



sa- lem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the



Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Naz- a- reth. The



child grew and be- came strong, filled with wis- dom; and the favor of



God was up- on him. The Gospel of the Lord.