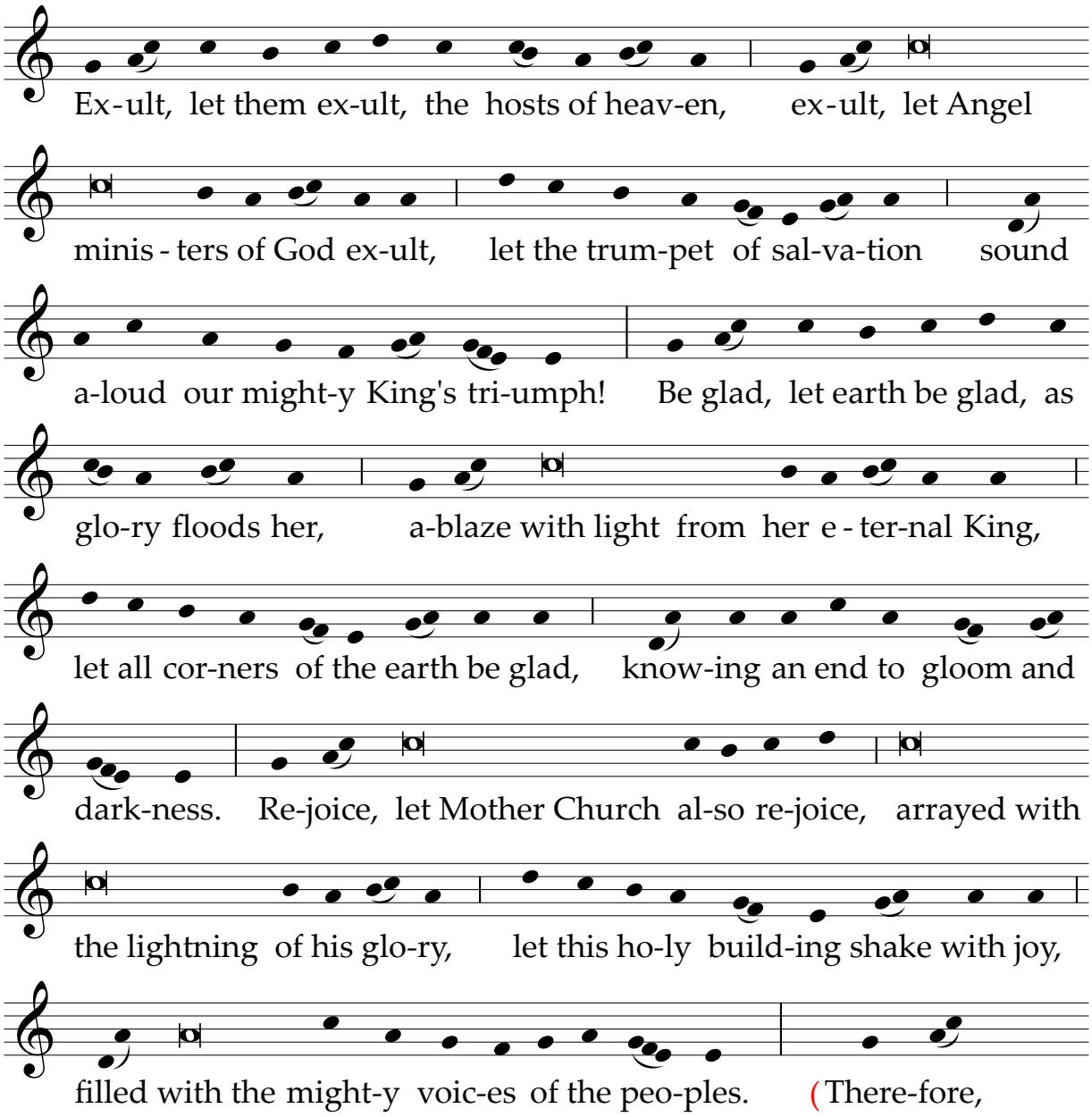THE PASCHAL PROCLAMATION
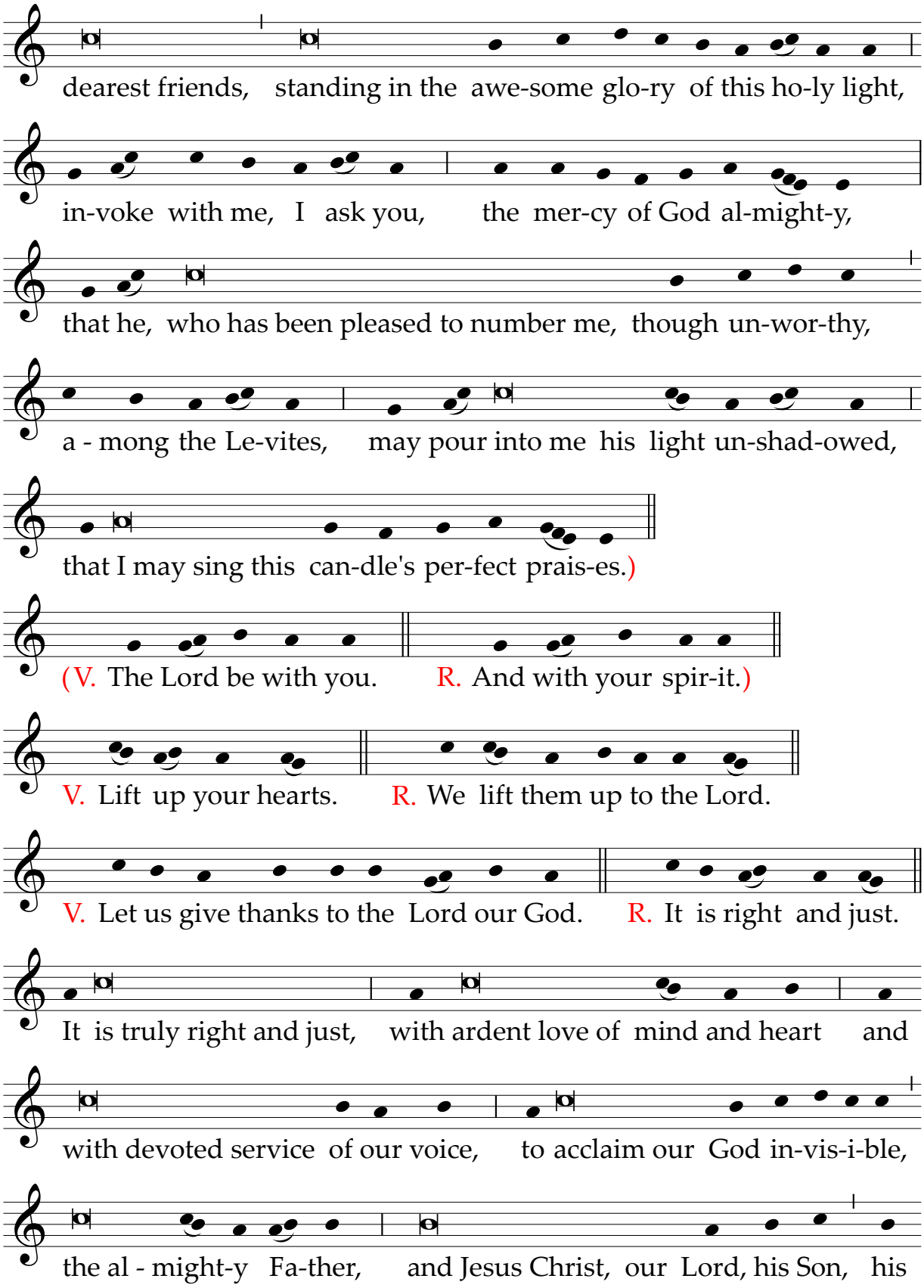
Longer form of the Paschal Proclamation
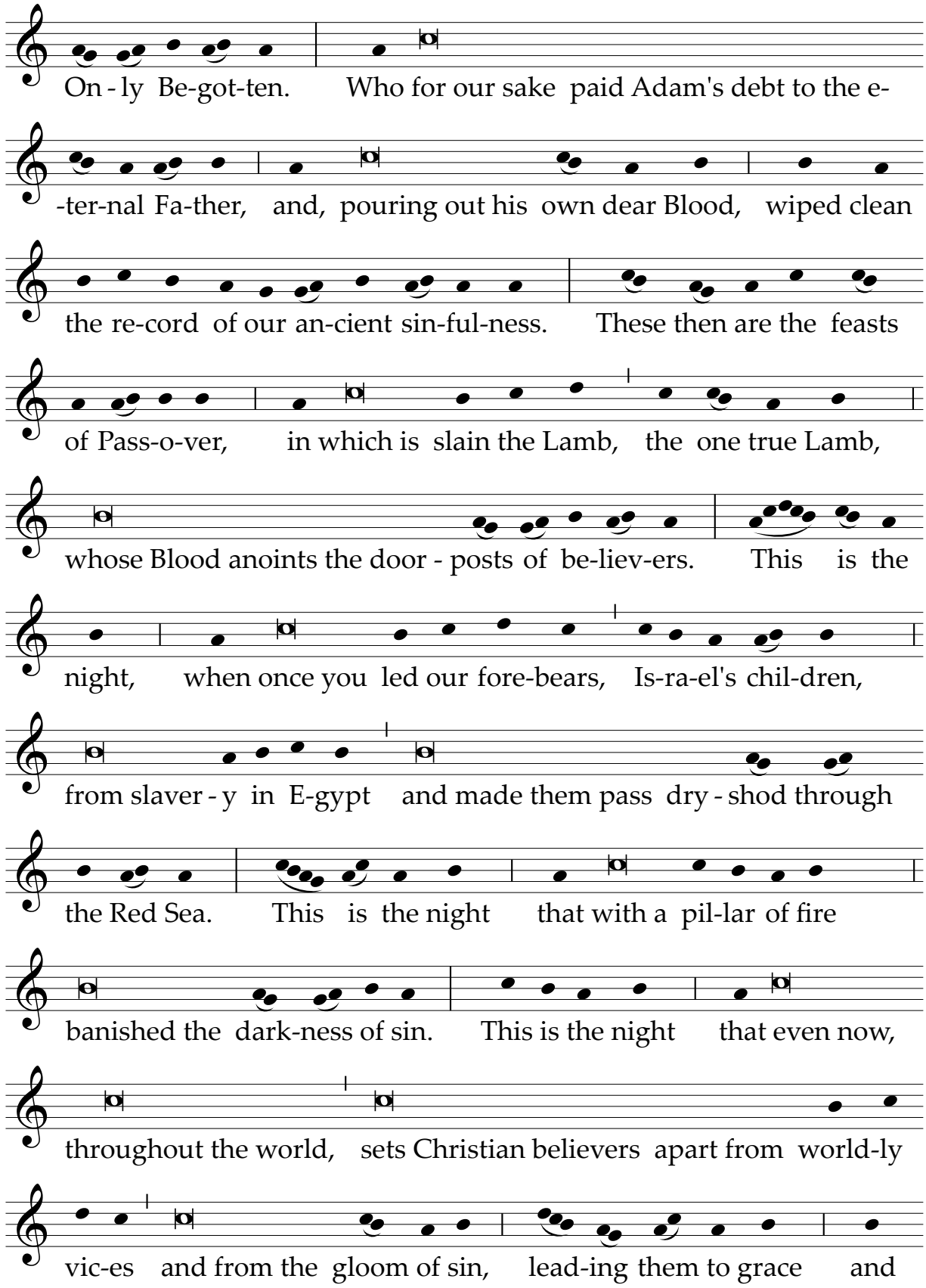
The Deacon, after incensing the book and the candle, proclaims the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) at the ambo or at a lectern, with all standing and holding lighted candles in their hands.
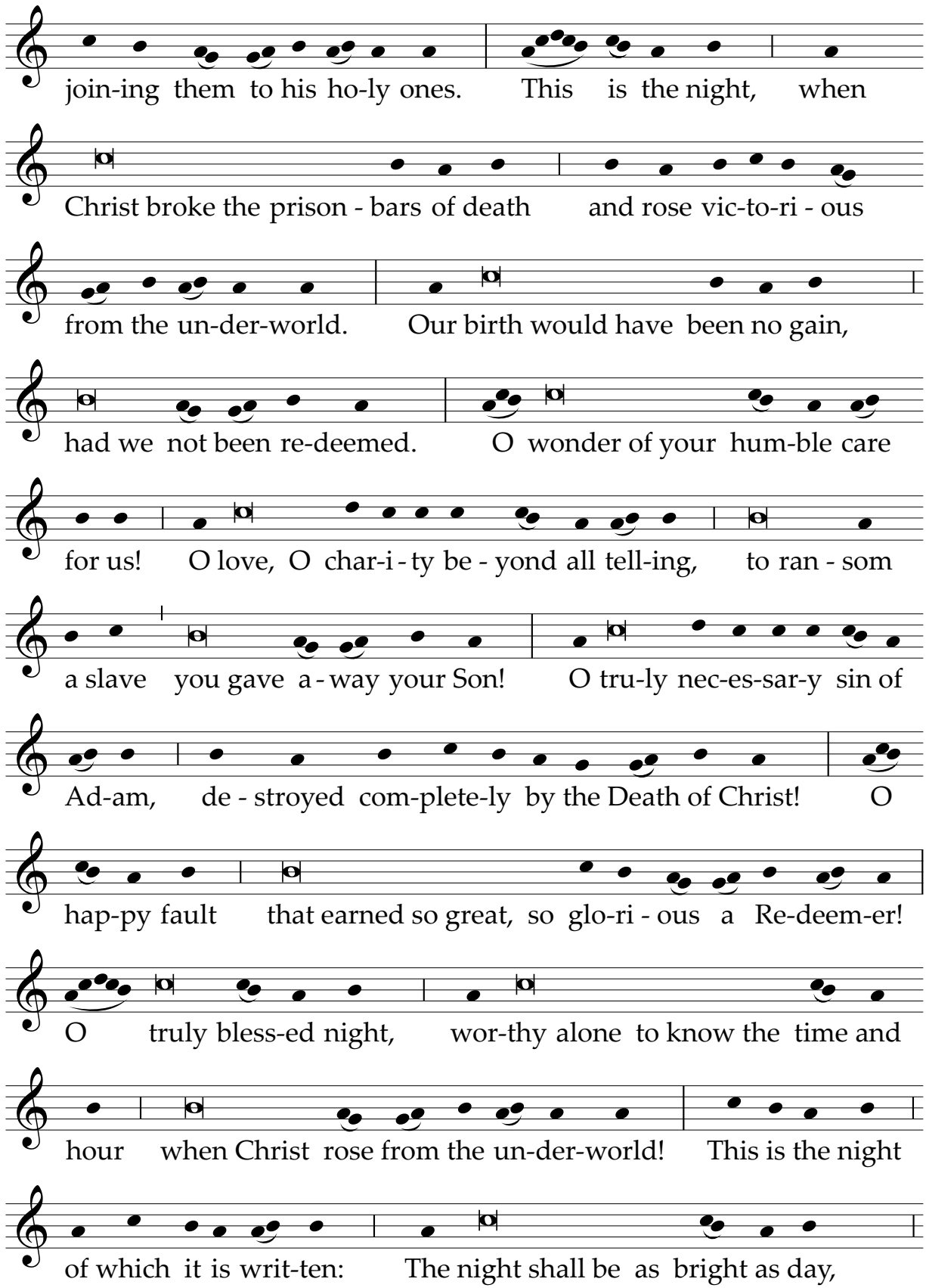
The Easter Proclamation may be made, in the absence of a Deacon, by the Priest himself or by another concelebrating Priest. If, however, because of necessity, a lay cantor sings the Proclamation, the words Therefore, dearest friends up to the end of the invitation are omitted, along with the greeting The Lord be with you.
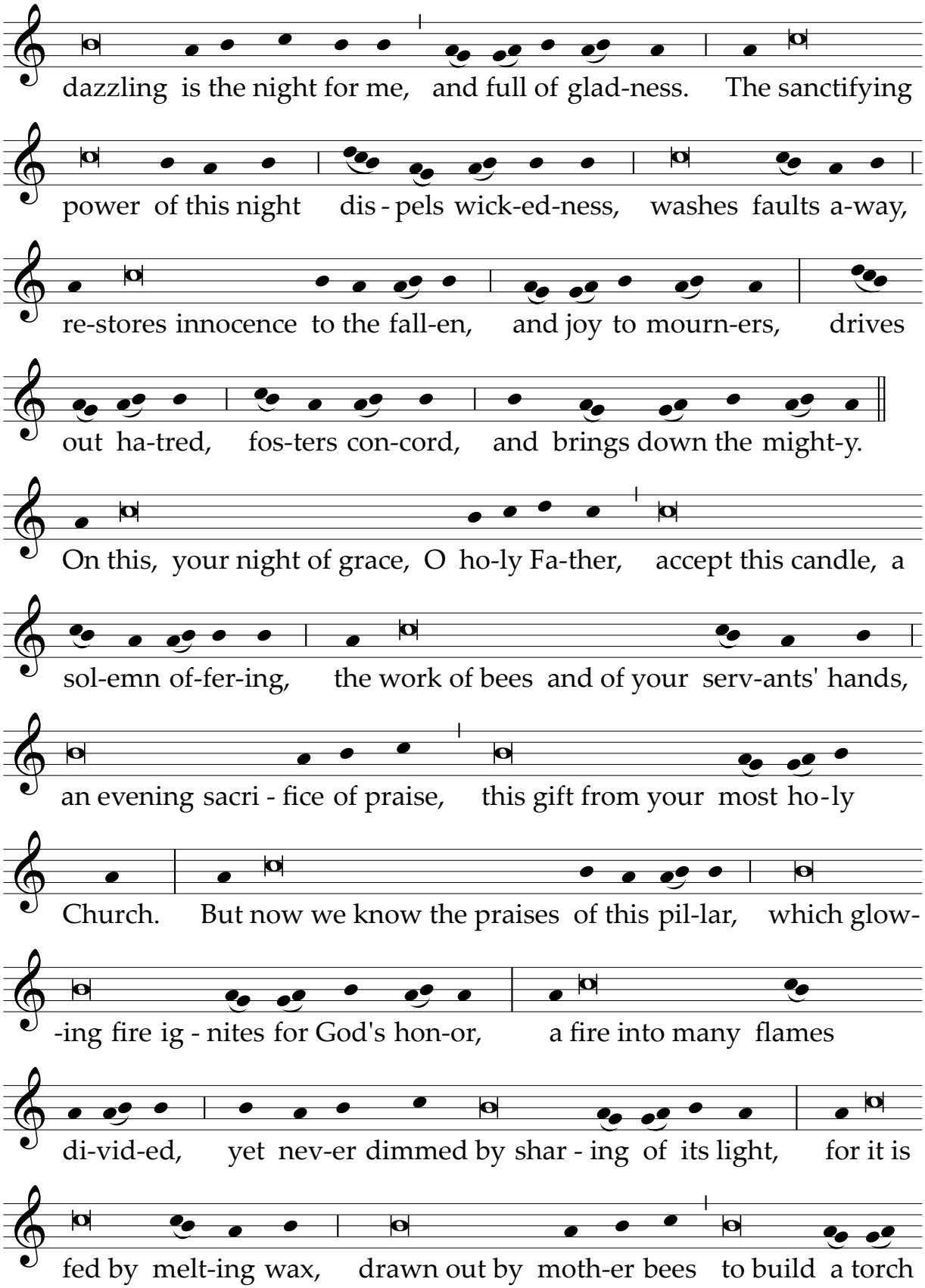
The Proclamation may also be sung in the shorter form.
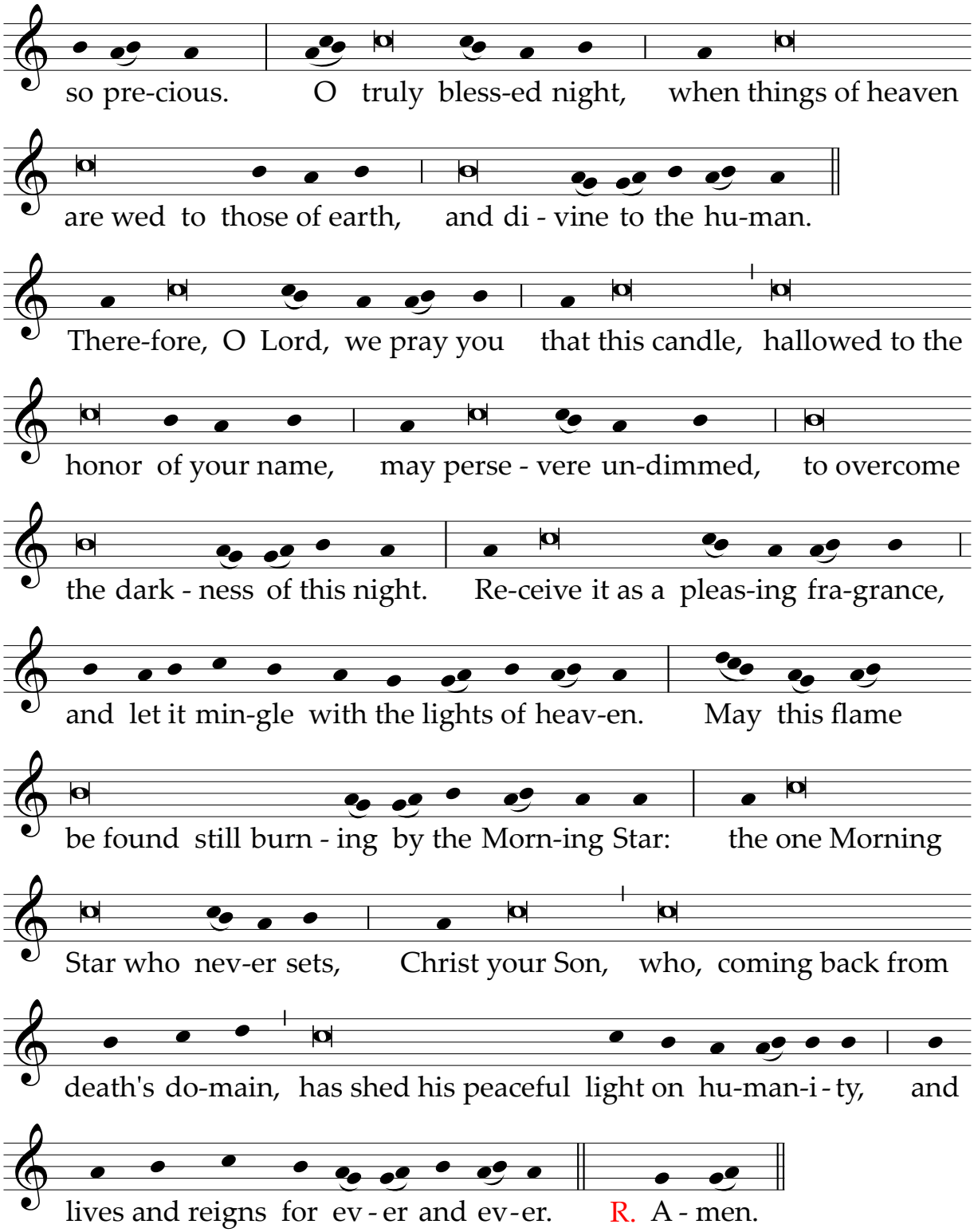



dearest friends, standing in the awe-some glo-ry of this ho-ly light,
in-voke with me, I ask you, the mer-cy of God al-might-y,
that he, who has been pleased to number me, though un-wor-thy,
a - mong the Le-vites, may pour into me his light un-shad-owed,
that I may sing this can-dle's per-fect prais-es.)
(V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.)
V. Lift up your hearts. R. We lift them up to the Lord.
V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.
It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and
with devoted service of our voice, to acclaim our God in-vis-i-ble,
the al - might-y Fa-ther, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his


On - ly Be-got-ten. Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the e-
-ter-nal Fa-ther, and, pouring out his own dear Blood, wiped clean
the re-cord of our an-cient sin-ful-ness. These then are the feasts
of Pass-o-ver, in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb,
whose Blood anoints the door - posts of be-liev-ers. This is the
night, when once you led our fore-bears, Is-ra-el's chil-dren,
from slaver - y in E-gypt and made them pass dry - shod through
the Red Sea. This is the night that with a pil-lar of fire
banished the dark-ness of sin. This is the night that even now,
throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from world-ly
vic-es and from the gloom of sin, lead-ing them to grace and


join-ing them to his ho-ly ones. This is the night, when
Christ broke the prison - bars of death and rose vic-to-ri - ous
from the un-der-world. Our birth would have been no gain,
had we not been re-deemed. O wonder of your hum-ble care
for us! O love, O char-i - ty be - yond all tell-ing, to ran - som
a slave you gave a - way your Son! O tru-ly nec-es-sar-y sin of
Ad-am, de - stroyed com-plete-ly by the Death of Christ! O
hap-py fault that earned so great, so glo-ri - ous a Re-deem-er!
O truly bless-ed night, wor-thy alone to know the time and
hour when Christ rose from the un-der-world! This is the night
of which it is writ-ten: The night shall be as bright as day,


dazzling is the night for me, and full of glad-ness. The sanctifying
power of this night dis - pels wick-ed-ness, washes faults a-way,
re-stores innocence to the fall-en, and joy to mourn-ers, drives
out ha-tred, fos-ters con-cord, and brings down the might-y.
On this, your night of grace, O ho-ly Fa-ther, accept this candle, a
sol-emn of-fer-ing, the work of bees and of your serv-ants' hands,
an evening sacri - fice of praise, this gift from your most ho-ly
Church. But now we know the praises of this pil-lar, which glow-
-ing fire ig - nites for God's hon-or, a fire into many flames
di-vid-ed, yet nev-er dimmed by shar - ing of its light, for it is
fed by melt-ing wax, drawn out by moth-er bees to build a torch



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