Exsultet

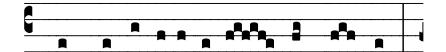
Beneventan Chant*



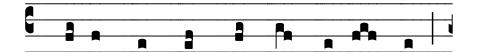
Re-joice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,



and let your trumpets shout salva-tion



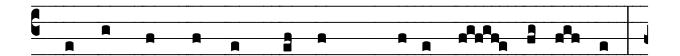
for the victory of our mighty King.



Re-joice and sing now, all the round earth,



bright with a glo- ri- ous splendor,



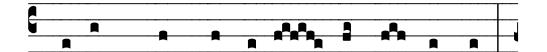
for darkness has been vanquished by our e-ternal King.



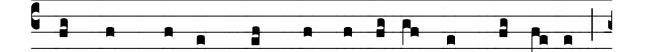
Re-joice and be glad now, Mother Church,



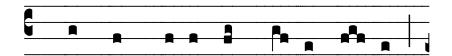
and let your ho- ly courts in radiant light,



re-sound with the praises of your people.



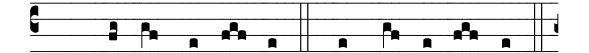
All you who stand near this marvel-ous and ho-ly flame,



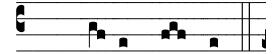
pray with me to God the Almighty,



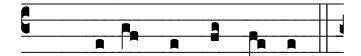
for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light.



. The Lord be with you. . And al- so with you.



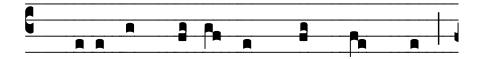
[\vec{V} Lift up your hearts.



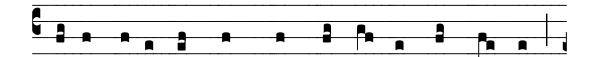
R We lift them to the Lord.]



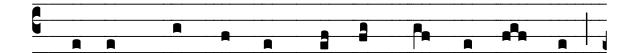
W. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



R. It is right to give our thanks and praise.



It is tru-ly right and good, always and everywhere,



with our whole heart and mind and voice to praise you,



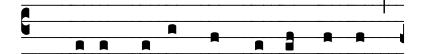
the invi-si-ble, almighty, and e- ter-nal God,



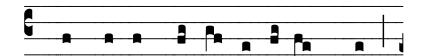
and your only-be-gotten Son Je-sus Christ our Lord;



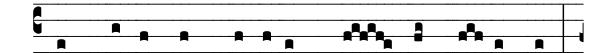
for he is the true Paschal Lamb,



who at the feast of the Pass-ov-er



paid for us the debt of Adam's sin,



and by his blood de-livered your faithful people.



This is the night



when you brought our forebears, the children of Is-ra-el,



out of bondage in E-gypt,



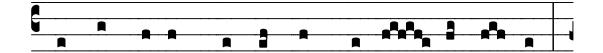
and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.



This is the night when all who be-lieve in Christ,



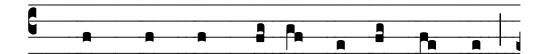
are de-liv-ered from the gloom of sin,



and are restored to grace and ho-li-ness of life.



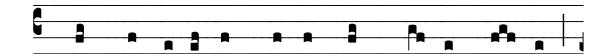
This is the night



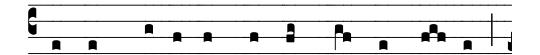
when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell,



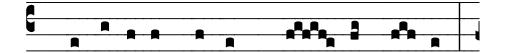
and rose victor-i- ous from the grave.



How wonderful and be-yond our know-ing, O God,



is your mercy and lov- ing kindness to us,



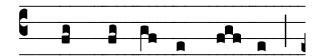
that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.



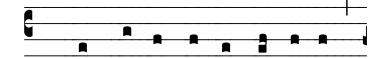
[O happy fault, O ne-cessa-ry sin of A-dam,



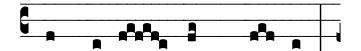
which gained for us so great a Re-deemer.]



How ho-ly is this night



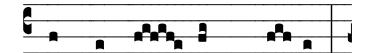
when wickedness is put to flight,



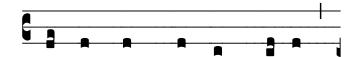
and sin is washed a- way.



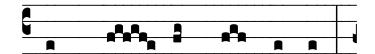
It restores innocence to the fall-en,



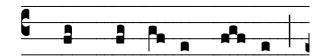
and joy to those who mourn.



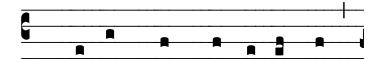
It casts out pride and hatred,



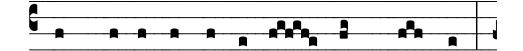
and brings peace and concord.



How blessed is this night,



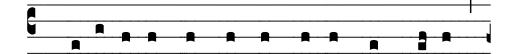
when earth and heaven are joined,



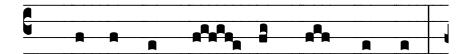
and humankind is re-con- ciled with God.



Ho-ly Father, accept our evening sa-cri-fice,



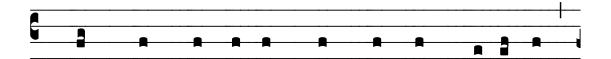
the offer-ing of this candle in your honor,



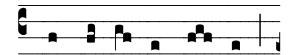
[the work of the bees your crea-tures.]



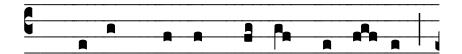
May it shine continually to drive a- way all darkness.



May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no set-ting,



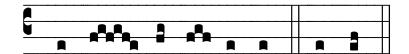
find it ev- er burn- ing,



who gives his light to all cre- a- tion,



and who lives and reigns with you



for ev- er and ev-er. R. Amen.

^{*} Beneventan chant, used in southern Italy during the 9th-14th centuries, is the earliest known music to which the Exsultet was sung. See Thomas Forrest Kelly, *The Exultet in Southern Italy* (Oxford University Press, 1996).