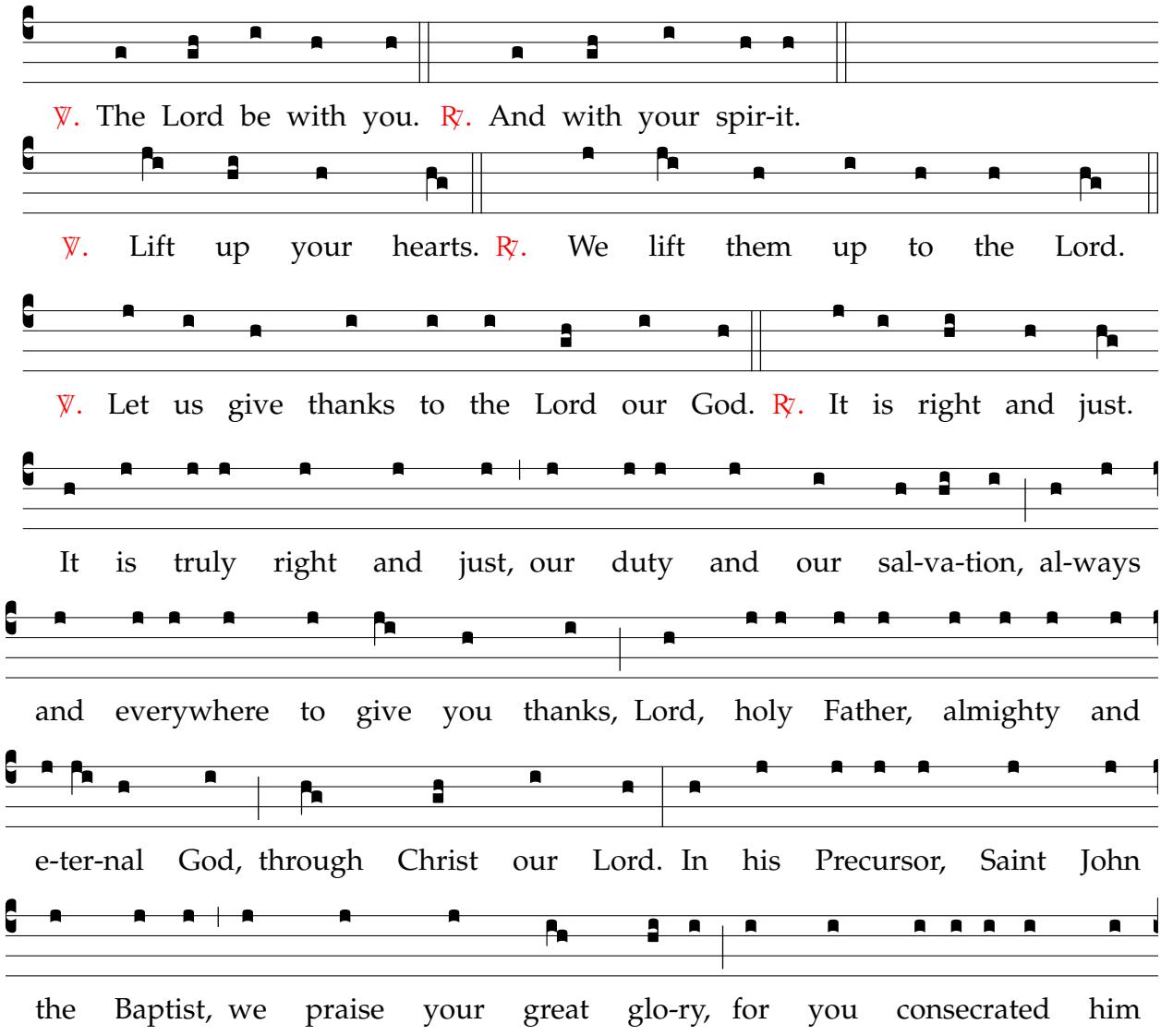
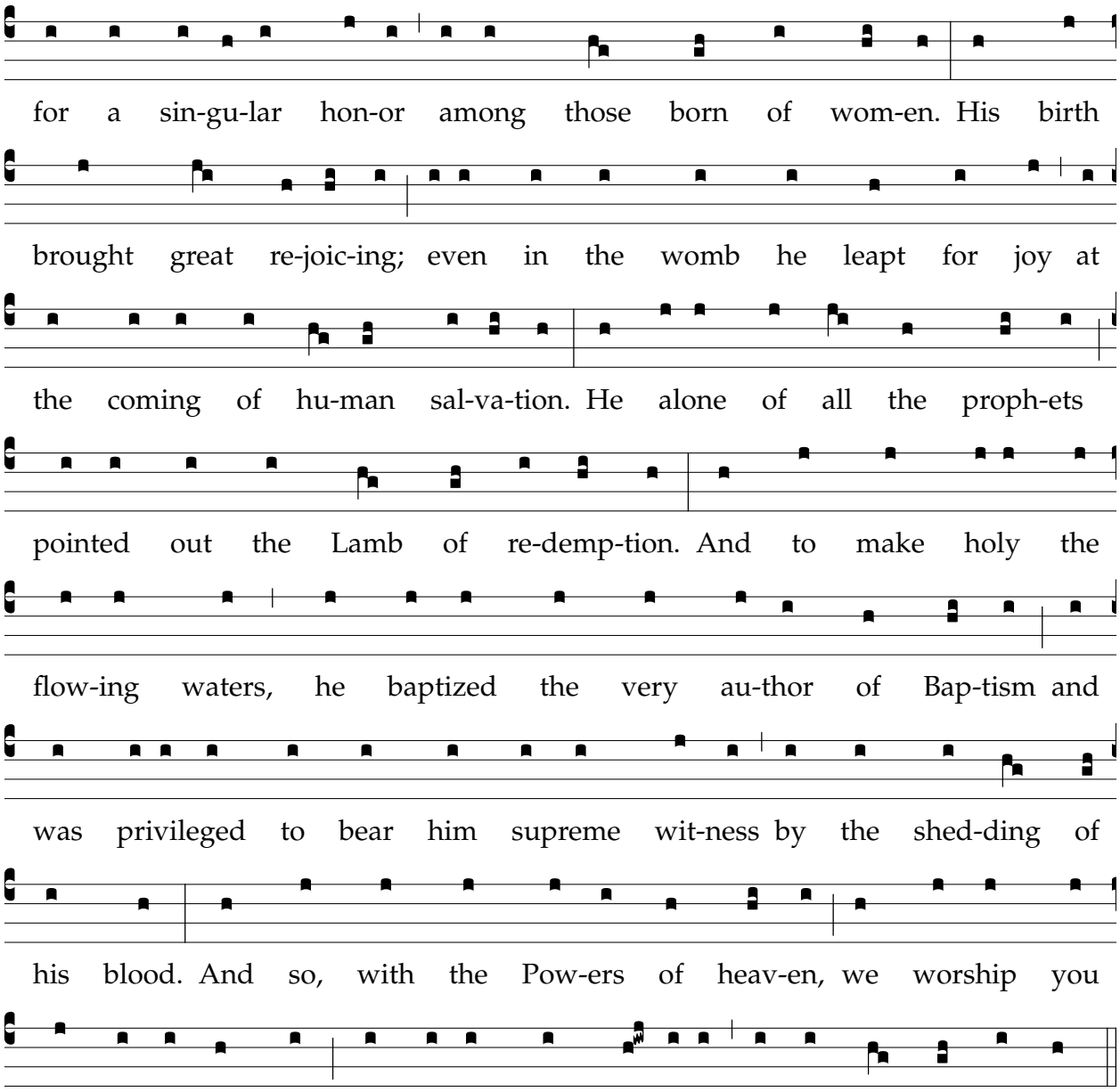
24 June
THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

The mission of the Precursor




for a sin-gu-lar hon-or among those born of wom-en. His birth
brought great re-joic-ing; even in the womb he leapt for joy at
the coming of hu-man sal-va-tion. He alone of all the proph-ets
pointed out the Lamb of re-demp-tion. And to make holy the
flow-ing waters, he baptized the very au-thor of Bap-tism and
was privileged to bear him supreme wit-ness by the shed-ding of
his blood. And so, with the Pow-ers of heav-en, we worship you
con-stant-ly on earth, and before your maj-es-ty without end we ac-claim: