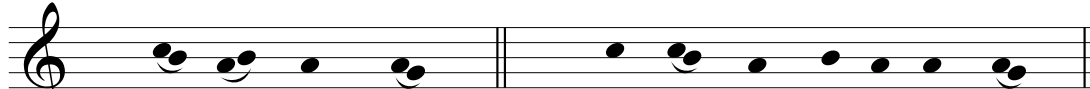


THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH


The mystery of God's Temple



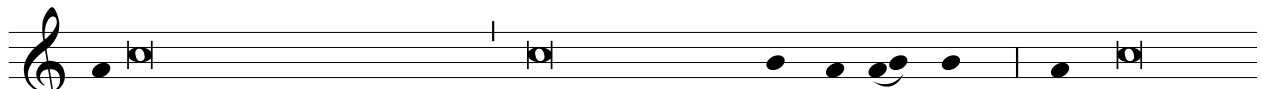
V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.




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, our duty and our sal-va-tion, al-ways and



everywhere to give you thanks, Fa-ther most ho-ly. For you have




made the whole world a temple of your glo-ry, that your name



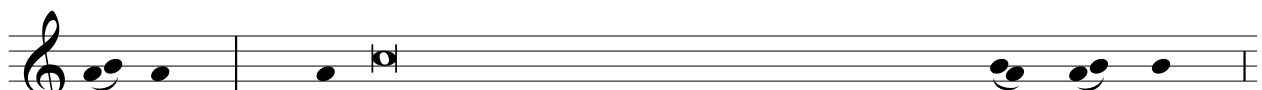
might everywhere be ex-tolled, yet you allow us to consecrate



to you apt places for the di-vine mys-ter-ies. And so, we dedicate



joyfully to your maj-es-ty this house of prayer, built by hu-man



la-bor. Here is foreshadowed the mystery of the true Tem-ple,



here is pre-fig-ured the heav-en-ly Je-ru-sa-lem. For you made

the Body of your Son, born of the tender Virgin, the Temple conse-
 -crated to you, in which the full-ness of the God-head might dwell.
 You also established the Church as a ho-ly cit-y, built upon the
 foundation of the A-pos-tles, with Christ Jesus him-self the chief
 cor-ner-stone: a city to be built of cho-sen stones, giv-en life by
 the Spirit and bond-ed by char-i-ty, where for endless ages you
 will be all in all and the light of Christ will shine un-dimmed for
 ev-er. Through him, O Lord, with all the An-gels and Saints, we
 give you thanks, as in exul-tation we ac-claim:

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