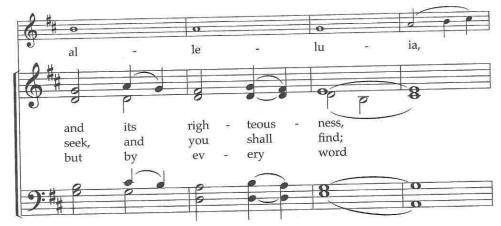
Seek Ye First







The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4, emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.



SPANISH

1 Busca primero el reino de Dios y su perfecta justicia, que lo demás lo añadirá el Señor. Alelu, aleluya.

1 너희는 먼저- 주의 나라와 그의를 구하-면

이모든것 네게 더하시리라 알렐-루 알렐루야



Light One Candle to Watch



This text works best when used incrementally during the four weeks of Advent. It underscores the "waiting" theme of the season and concludes appropriately with reference to Matthew 25:1–13. The tune name meaning "deep in the forest" comes from the opening of a Yiddish love song.

86 The People Who Walked in Darkne



One of the great virtues of scriptural paraphrases is that they bring fresh understanding and appreciate familiar passages. This adaptation of a customary Advent text, Isaiah 9:2–7, provides an effective basis how revisited verses can take on new life when recast.

361 O Christ, the Great Foundation



- 1 O Christ, the great foun-da tion on which your peo ple stand
- 2 Bap tized in one con fes sion, one church in all the earth,
- 3 Where ty-rants' hold is tight-ened, where strong de-vour the weak,
- 4 This is the mo-ment glo-rious when he who once was dead



to preach your true sal - va - tion in ev - ery age and land: we bear our Lord's im - pres - sion, the sign of sec - ond birth: where in - no - cents are fright - ened, the righ - teous fear to speak, shall lead his church vic - to - rious, their cham-pion and their head.



pour out your Ho - ly Spir - it to make us strong and pure, one ho - ly peo - ple gath - ered in love be - yond our own, there let your church a - wak - ing at - tack the powers of sin The Lord of all cre - a - tion his heaven-ly king-dom brings:





by grace we were in - vit - ed; by grace we make you known.
and, all their ram-parts break - ing, with you the vic - tory win.
the fi - nal con - sum - ma - tion, the glo - ry of all things.



but was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that pand an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, *Hymns of Universal Praise* (1936). This familiar tune comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers



- 1 Re joice! Re joice, be liev ers, and let your lights ap pear;
- 2 See that your lamps are burn ing; re plen-ish them with oil;
- 3 Our hope and ex pec ta tion, O Je sus, now ap pear;



the eve-ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark-er night is near. look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil. a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this shad-owed sphere!





The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon he will draw nigh.

The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand;

With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see





Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion; at mid-night comes the cry. a - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the Bride-groom is at hand! the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!



The Latin original of this text based on the parable of the wise and foolish maidens (Matthew 25:1–13) consisted of ten stanzas, but this briefer version is more appropriate for its message of urgency. It is set to a spirited minor Welsh tune named for a Pembrokeshire village.