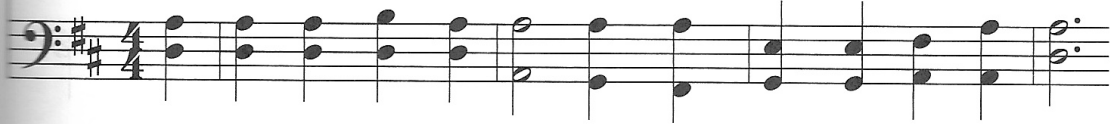


O Christ, the Great Foundation 361



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:



to keep the faith un-bro-ken as long as worlds en-dure.
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.



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