Behold the Bridegroom Cometh

SECOND MODE MELODY (14 14, 14 14)  
Horologion, c. 8th century  
tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1864

Thomas Tallis, 1567

1. Behold the Bridegroom cometh in the middle of the night,
2. Do thou, my soul, beware, beware, lest thou in sleep sink down,
3. That day, the day of fear, shall come; my soul, slack not thy toil,
4. Beware, my soul; beware, beware, lest thou in slumber lie,

And blessed is he whose loins are girt, whose lamp is burning bright;  
Lest thou be given o'er to death, and lose the golden crown;  
But light thy lamp, and feed it well, and make it bright with oil;  
And, like the Five, remain without, and knock, and vainly cry;

But woe to that dull servant whom the Master shall surprise  
But see that thou be sober, with a watchful eye, and thus  
Who knowest not how soon may sound the cry at evening,  
But watch, and bear thy lamp undimmed, and Christ shall gird thee on

With lamp untrimmed, unburning, and with slumber in his eyes.  
Cry, "Holy, holy, holy God, have mercy upon us."  
"Behold, the Bridegroom comes! Arise! Go forth to meet the bride."  
His own bright wedding robe of light—the glory of the Son.