

# Hymn Lyrics

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## Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands  
for our offenses given;  
but now at God's right hand he stands,  
and brings us life from heaven:  
wherefore let us joyful be,  
and sing to God right thankfully  
loud songs of Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!

It was a strange and dreadful strife,  
when life and death contended;  
the victory remained with life,  
the reign of death was ended:  
stripped of power, no more he reigns;  
an empty form alone remains;  
his sting is lost for ever.  
Hallelujah!

So let us keep the festival  
whereto the Lord invites us;  
Christ is himself the joy of all,  
the sun that warms and lights us;  
by his grace he doth impart  
eternal sunshine to the heart;  
the night of sin is ended.  
Hallelujah!

Then let us feast this Easter day  
on the true Bread of heaven.  
the word of grace hath purged away  
the old and wicked leaven;  
Christ alone our souls will feed,  
he is our meat and drink indeed,  
faith lives upon no other.  
Hallelujah!

(1483-1546); trans. Richard Massie (1800-1887)

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