

# Hymn Lyrics

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## Hail thee, festival day (Ascension)

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

Lo, the fair beauty of earth,  
from the death of the winter arising,  
every good gift of the year  
now with its Master returns.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

Daily the loveliness grows,  
adorned with the glory of blossom;  
heaven her gates unbars,  
flinging her increase of light.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

Christ in his triumph ascends,  
who hath vanquished the devil's dominion;  
gay is the woodland with leaves,  
bright are the meadows with flowers.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

Christ overwhelms the domain  
of Hades and rises to heaven;  
fitly the light gives him praise--  
meadows and ocean and sky.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

Loosen, O Lord, the enchained,  
the spirits imprisoned in darkness;  
rescue, recall into life those  
who are rushing to death.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

So shalt thou bear in thine arms

an immaculate people to heaven,  
bearing them pure unto God,  
pledge of thy victory here.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!*

*Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

Jesus, the health of the world,  
enlighten our minds, thou Redeemer,  
Son of the Father supreme,  
only-begotten of God! Refrain

Equal art thou, co-eternal,  
in fellowship ay with the Father;  
in the beginning by thee  
all was created and made.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!*

*Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*

And it was thou, blessèd Lord,  
who discerning humanity's sorrow,  
humbledst thyself for our race,  
taking our flesh for thine own.

*Refrain:*

*Hail thee, festival day!*

*Blest day that art hallowed forever;  
day when our God ascends  
high in the heavens to reign.*