

Early Ere the Dawn of the Morning
John Hopkins(1820-1891)

Early ere the dawn of the morning,
After the earthquake thunder
By the tomb, now empty and open,
Jesus had burst asunder
Angels of light sat clothed in white,
And singing with all their might

Refrain

He that was slain, now risen again,
Forever shall reign, Alleluia.

Weeping now the women draw nigh them,
Spices and ointment bringing;
See them start, and, thrilling with rapture,
List to the angels singing
"Be of good cheer, for He is not here,
But risen and standeth near."

Refrain

"Go," say they, "and tell the Eleven,
If they would gladly greet Him,
Soon from hence to Galilee going,
There shall they surely meet Him."
Hearing it, lo! with joy they o'erflow,
And sing as they homeward go

Refrain

Wond'ring, doubting, hoping and fearing,
All the day long they trembled;
Till His "Peace be with you" was breathe d
On the Elev'n assembled;
Joyfully then they worship again,
And swell the loud Easter strain:

Refrain

Easter day is come in its glory;
Sing, brothers, Alleluia;
Saints triumphant join in the chorus,
Echoing, Alleluia.
Angels on high resound thro' the sky
Eternally Alleluia.

Refrain