

# Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN (8 7. 8 7. 7 8. 7 4), alt.

Based on "Christ ist erstanden"

Victimae Paschali, c. 1100

Martin Luther, 1524

Tr. Richard Massie, 1854

1. Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, For our of - fens - es giv - en;  
 2. Grim Death had spared no mor - tal man, Of a - ny race or na - tion,  
 3. Now Je - sus Christ, God's on - ly Son, As - sumed our low - ly sta - tion,  
 4. It was a strange and dread - ful strife, When Life and death con - tend - ded;  
 5. Here the true Pas - chal Lamb we see, Whom God so free - ly gave us.

But now at God's right hand He stands And brings us life from heav - en;  
 It was be - cause of A - dam's sin - None was with - out transgress - ion.  
 And He took from us all our sin, By death He brought re - demp - tion.  
 The vic - to - ry re - mained with Life: The reign of Death was end - ed.  
 He died on the ac - curs - ed tree So strong His love to save us.

There - fore let us joy - ful be, And sing to God right thank - ful - ly  
 There - fore came grim Death so soon, And took pos - ess - ion of all men,  
 Of Death's pow'r and of his might, No trace re - mains, but Death's mere sight,  
 Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly saith, That Death is swal - lowed up by death,  
 See, His blood doth mark our door: Faith points to it, Death pas - ses o'er,

Loud songs of Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 And held us in his ter - or. Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 His sting is gone for - e - ver: Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 So we can mock our dy - ing: Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 And Sa - tan can - not harm us. Hal - le - lu - jah!

6. 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!

7. Then let us feast this Paschal Day  
 On Christ, the Bread of heaven  
 The Word of Grace hath purged away  
 The old and evil leaven  
 Christ alone our souls will feed  
 He is our meat and drink indeed;  
 Faith lives upon no other. Hallelujah!