

Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

EASTER

(also known as In Death's Strong Bands)

Words: Martin Luther, 1524. Translated by Richard Massie, 1854.

Music: 'Christ lag in Tobes Banden' or 'Torgau' from Walter's Geistliche Gesangbüchlein, 1524.

Setting: "Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book", 1931, alt.

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♩ = 110

1. Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, For our of - fen - ses
 2. No son of man could con - quer Death, Such mis - chief sin had
 3. But Je - sus Christ, God's on - ly Son, To our low state de -
 4. It was a strange and dread - ful strife When life and death con -
 5. Here the true Pas - chal Lamb we see, Whom God so free - ly

giv - - en; But now at God's right hand He stands, And brings us life from
 wrought us, For in - no - cence dwelt not on earth, And there - fore Death had
 scend - - ed, The cause of Death He has un - done, His power for - ev - er
 ten - - ded; The vic - to - ry re - remained with life; The reign of death was
 gave us; He died on the ac - - cur - sed tree So strong His love! to

Hea - - ven. Where - fore let us joy - ful be, And sing to God right
 brought us In - to thrall - dom from of old And ev - er grew more
 end - - ed, Ru - ined all his right and claim And left him no - thing
 end - - ed. Stripped of power, no more it reigns, An emp - ty form a -
 save us. See, His blood doth mark our door; Faith points to it, Death

thank - ful - - ly Loud songs of Al - le - lu - - ia! Al - le - - lu - - ia!
 strong and bold And kept us in his bon - - dage. Al - le - - lu - - ia!
 but the name, His sting is lost for - ev - - er. Al - le - - lu - - ia!
 lone re - - mains Death's sting is lost for - ev - - er! Al - le - - lu - - ia!
 pas - ses o'er, And Sa - tan can - not harm us. Al - le - - lu - - ia!

6. So let us keep the festival Where to 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! Alleluia!

7. 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! Alleluia!