Christ Jesus Lay In Death’s Strong Bonds

1. Christ Jesus lay in death’s strong bands, for our offenses given;
2. It was a strange and dreadful strife when life and death contended;
3. Here the true Paschal Lamb we see, whom God so freely gave us;
4. So let us keep the festival where-to the Lord invites us;

But now at God’s right hand He stands and brings us light from heaven.
The victory remained with life, the reign of death was ended.
Christ is Himself the Joy of all, the Sun that warms and lights us.

Therefore let us joyful be and sing to God right thankfully.
Holy Scripture plainly saith that death is swallowed up by death;
See, His blood doth mark our door; faith points to it, death passes o’er.
By His grace He doth impart eternal sunshine to the heart;

Loud songs of hallelujah. Hallelujah!
His sting is lost forever. Hallelujah!
And Satan cannot harm us. Hallelujah!
The night of sin is ended. Hallelujah!

Words: Martin Kuther, 1524, based on Latin Victimae Puschali; tr. by Richard Massie, 1854, abd.
Music: Latin melody, c. 1100; Arr. by Johann Walther, 1524

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