

HAIL, thou festive, ever venerable day, whereon hell is conquered, & heaven is won by Christ. 2x

1. Lo! our earth is in her spring, bearing thus her witness that, with her Lord, she has all her gifts restored.

2. For now the woods with their leaves and the meadows with their flowers, pay homage to Jesus' triumph over the gloomy tomb.

3. Seeing the human race was sunk in misery deep, thou wast made Man, that thou mightest rescue man.

4. The gloomful bonds of hell were broken; the abyss shook with fear, as the light shone upon its brink.

5. But redeem thy promise, I beseech thee, merciful King! This is the third day; arise, my buried Jesus!

6. Set free the spirits that are shackled in limbo's prison. Raise up all fallen things.

7. Show us once more thy face, that all ages may see the light! Bring back the day which fled when thou didst die.

SALVE festa dies,
toto venerabilis aëvo,
Qua Deus inférnum
vicit et astra tenet. 2x

1. Ecce renascéntis
testátur grátia mundi
Ómnia cum Dómino
dona redísse suo. *Salve.*

2. Namque triumphánti
post trístia tártara Christo
Úndique fronde nemus,
grámina flore favent. *Salve.*

3. Qui genus humánum
cernens mersísse profúndo,
Ut hóminem eríperes,
es quoque factus homo. *Salve.*

4. Trístia cessérunt
inférnae víncula legis,
Expavitque chaos
lúminis ore premi. *Salve.*

5. Pollícitam sed redde fidem,
precor alma potéstas:
Tértia lux rédiit,
surge sepúlte meus. *Salve.*

6. Solve catenátas
inférni cárceris umbras,
Et révoca sursum
quidquid ad íma rúit. *Salve.*

7. Redde tuam fáciem,
vídeant ut saécula lumen;
Redde diem qui nos,
te moriénte, fugit. *Salve.*

HAIL, day of refreshment,^A for all time worthy of reverence, on which God conquered the netherworld and holds^B the stars. 2x

1. Lo the grace of a world reborn^C bears witness that with their Lord all gifts have returned.

2. Yea the grove with greenery, the meadows with bloom all over, regale Christ triumphant after the dismal infernal realms.^D

3. Thou who, discerning that mankind had plunged into the abyss, in order to rescue man, became man also.

4. The dismal bonds of hellish control^E have given way, and the void has shrunk back, driven in the face of light.

5. Yet do thou make good thy plighted faith,^F I pray thee, bounteous power: the third light^G has come around, arise, my buried one!

6. Loose the shackled shades^H of the netherworld's prison, and call back above whatever plummets to the deepest.

7. Restore thy face, that the ages may see light; restore the daylight, which fled us when thou didst die.

HAIL, festal day, held in veneration throughout the ages; on which a God doth triumph over the tomb and doth take possession of the heavens. 2x

1. Behold, the grace of the world reborn attests that all the gifts of the Lord have returned with him.

2. For, to celebrate the triumph over the darkness of death, the forests everywhere are covered with foliage, and the plants display their flowers.

3. Thou it was, who, seeing the sad wreck of the human race, didst deign to become man.

4. The dismal chains of the infernal regions are broken, and chaos quivers penetrated with light.

5. But, O Divine power, fulfil thy promise: a third sun hath risen at the dawn: come forth from the tomb.

6. Unfetter the spirits enchained in the prisons of hell, and bring on high all that sank into the abyss.

7. Show us thy countenance again, that the ages may again behold the light: give us back the day, that, at the moment of thy death was eclipsed.

* Fulgéntes ánimas vestis quoque cándida signat, Et grege de níveo gáudia pastor habet. *Salve.* The white garments symbolize unspotted souls, and the Shepherd rejoices in his snowlike flock.

A) "refreshment": i.e. of leisure and merriment. B) "holds the stars": i.e. rules heaven. C) "reborn": i.e. in spring. D) "after the dismal...": i.e. following the harrowing of hell. —"infernal realms": in Latin *tartara*, pl. from Tartarus, the part of Hades or the underworld, in Greek mythology, where wicked souls suffered punishment. E) "control": literally, law. F) "plighted faith": i.e. promised assurance, cf. Mt 16.21, 17.23, 20.19; Mk 8.31, 9.31, 10.34; Lk 18.33. G) "third light": i.e. third day. H) "shades of the netherworld's prison": i.e. souls in limbo patrum.