

# Hymn: Fairest Lord Jesus

"Fairest Lord Jesus" was a very popular hymn during the Victorian era, a time when the singing of hymns as part of worship was just becoming favored.

There are several accounts as to the origin of the beautiful hymn "Fairest Lord Jesus." The best-known legend is that it was sung by the twelfth-century German Crusaders as they made their long, weary way to the Holy Land. Another more credible account is that it was sung by the followers of John Hus, who were driven out of Bohemia in 1620 in the anti-Reformation purge and settled in Silesia, now part of Poland. They had to keep their faith secret, yet had a strong tradition of hymn singing.

It has been attributed to the German Jesuits, who first published it in their Munster Gesangbuch in 1677. The words date back at least 15 years earlier, having been found in a manuscript dating back to 1662.

## Fairest Lord Jesus Lyrics

1 Fairest Lord Jesus,  
ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God and man the Son,  
Thee will I cherish,  
Thee will I honor,  
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,  
fairer still the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,  
fairer still the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels heaven can boast.

4 Beautiful Savior!  
Lord of all the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine.

# Fairest Lord Jesus

Joseph A. Seiss

Schlesische Volkslieder

E♭ Cm A♭<sup>6</sup> B♭ E♭ E♭ Cm



Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all  
Fair are the mead - ows, Fair - er still the  
Fair is the sun - shine, Fair - er still the  
Bea - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the

4 A♭<sup>6</sup> B♭ E♭ E♭ A♭ E♭



na - ture, O Thou of God and  
wood - lands, Robed in the bloom - ing  
moon - light, And all the twin - kling,  
na - tions, Son of God and

7 B♭<sup>7</sup>/D E♭ B♭ E♭/G A♭ E♭/B♭



man the Son; Thee I will  
garb of spring: Je - sus is  
star - ty host: Je - sus shines  
Son of Man! Glo - ry and

10 C<sup>7</sup> Fm B♭<sup>7</sup> E♭



cher - ish, Thee will I hon - or, Thou,  
fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er, Who  
bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er, Than  
hon - or, Praise, ad - o - ra - tion, Now

13 E♭ E♭/G A♭ E♭/B♭ B♭<sup>7</sup> E♭



my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
all the ang - gels heav'n can boast.  
and for - ev - er - more be Thine!