

On This Day, the First of Days

Baker

1. On this day, the first of days,
God the Father's name we praise;
who, creation's Lord and Spring,
did the world from darkness bring.
2. On this day, th'eternal Son
over death his triumph won;
on this day the Spirit came
with his gifts of living flame.
3. O that fervent love today
may in ev'ry heart have sway,
teaching us to pray aright
God the source of life and light.
4. Father, who didst fashion me
image of thyself to be,
fill me with thy love divine,
may my ev'ry thought be thine.
5. Holy Jesus, may I be
dead and risen here with thee;
and upon love's flame arise
unto thee a sacrifice.
6. Thou who dost all gifts impart.
shine, good Spirit, in my heart;
best of gifts, thyself bestow;
make me burn thy love to know.
7. God, the blessed Three-in-One,
Father, Spirit, with his Son;
one in you with all above,
we send forth our hearts of love.

Inspiration: "Die parente temporum" in "Breviary of the Diocese of Le Mans", 1748.
Lyrics: 77.77; Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, in "Hymns Ancient and Modern", 1861.