I Bind unto Myself Today

Saint Patrick's Breastplate

unison

1. I bind un-to my-self to-day The strong name of the Trin-i-ty, By in-vo-ca-tion of the same, The Three in One, and One in Three.

2. I bind this day to me for-ever, By pow'r of faith, Christ's
3. I bind un-to my-self the pow'r Of the great love of
4. I bind un-to my-self to-day The vir-tues of the
5. I bind un-to my-self to-day The pow'r of God to
6. A-gainst the de-mon snares of sin, The vice that gives temp-
7. A-gainst all Sa-tan's spells and wiles, A-gainst false words of

in-car-na-tion, His bap-tism in the Jor-dan Riv-er, His
cher-u-bim, The sweet "Well done" in judg-ment hour, The
star-lit heav-en, The glo-rious sun's life-giv-ing ray, The
hold and lead, His eye to watch, His might to stay, His
ta-tion force, The na-tural lusts that war with-in, The
her-e-sy, A-gainst the knowl-edge that de-files, A-

death on the cross for my sal-va-tion, His burst-ing from the spic-ed
serv-ice of the ser-a-phim, Con-fes-sors' faith, a-pos-tles'
white-ness of the moon at e-ven, The flash-ing of the light-ning
ear to heark-en to my need, The wis-dom of my God to
hos-tile men that mar my course— Though few or man-y, far or
gainst the heart's i-dol-a-try, A-gainst the wiz-ard's e-vil

tomb, His rid-ing up the Heav'n-ly way, His com-ing
word, The pa-triarchs' pray'rs, the proph-ets' scrolls, All good deeds
free, The whirl-ing wind's tem-pes-tuous shocks, The sta-ble
teach, His hand to guide, His shield to ward, The word of
nigh— In ev-'ry place, and in all hours, A-gainst their
craft, A-gainst the death-wound and the burn-ing, The chok-ing

at the day of doom I bind un-to my-self to-day.
done un-to the Lord, And pu-ri-ty of vir-gin souls.
earth, the deep salt sea A-round the old en-dur-ing rocks.
God to give me speech, His Heav'n-ly host to be my guard.
fierce hos-til-i-ty I bind to me these ho-ly pow'rs.
wave, the poi-soned shaft, Pro-tect me, Christ, till Thy re-turn-ing.

harmony

8. Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,
Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in dan-ger,

Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

unison

9. I bind un-to my-self the name, The strong name of the Trin-i-ty, By in-vo-ca-tion of the same, The Three in One, and One in Three Of whom all na-ture hath cre-a-tion: E-ter-nal Fa-ther, Spir-it, Word. Praise to the Lord of my sal-va-tion; Sal-va-tion is of Christ the Lord.

Music 1: ancient Irish hymn melody; arr. Charles Villiers Standford, 1902
Music 2: ancient Irish melody; adapt.
Text: attr. Patrick of Ireland (372–466); tr. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1889

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