

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-ev-er, 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-

Music 1: ancient Irish hymn melody; arr. Charles Villiers Stanford, 1902

Music 2: ancient Irish melody; adapt.

Text: attr. Patrick of Ireland (372–466); tr. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1889

ST. PATRICK

8 8. 8 8. 8 8. 8 8.

DEIRDRE

8 8. 8 8. Trochaic

30

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 hear - 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

37

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

43

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.

50 *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,

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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.

I Bind unto Myself Today

Cont'd

59 *unison*

9. I bind un - to my - self the name, The strong name of the

66

Trin - i - ty, By in - vo - ca - tion of the same, The

72

Three in One, and One in Three Of whom all na - ture

78

hath cre - a - tion: E - ter - nal Fa - ther, Spir - it, Word. Praise to the

85

Lord of my sal - va - tion; Sal - va - tion is of Christ the Lord.