

# ST PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE

(Hymn of the Ancient Irish Church)

Cecil Frances Alexander  
(1823 - 95)

Charles V Stanford  
(1852 - 1924)

Not slow, and with strong rhythm

VOICES

**FULL**

I bind un - to - my - self - to - day, - The

ORGAN

strong name of - the Trin - i - ty, By in - vo - ca - tion

of the same, The - Three in - One, - and One in Three.

TENORS & BASSES

I bind this day - to me - for ev - er, By pow - er of faith, Christ's

*Sw. mf*

In - car - na - tion; His bap - tism in Jor - dan

*mp*

ri - ver; His death on cross for my sal - va - tion;

**FULL**

His burst - ing from the spic - ed tomb; His rid - ing

*f* *Gt. f*

up the heaven - ly way; His com - ing at the

*Full Sw.*

day of doom; I bind un - to my - self to - day.

*Gt.*

## SOPRANOS &amp; ALTOS

I bind un - to my - self the power Of the great love of

Cher - u - bim; The sweet "Well done" in judge - ment hour; The

## TENORS &amp; BASSES

ser - vice of the Ser - a - phim, Con - fess - ors' faith, A -

- pos - tles' word, The Pa - triarchs' prayers, the Pro - phets' scrolls, All good deeds

done un - to the Lord, And pu - ri - ty of vir - gin souls.

FULL.

I bind un - to - my - self - to - day - The vir - tues of the -

*mf*

*p Sw.*

star - lit heaven, The glo - rious sun's life - giv - ing ray, - The

Ch.

Sw. *p*

white - ness of the moon at e - ven, The flash - ing of the

*cresc.*

Full Sw.

light - ning free, The whirl - ing winds' tem - pes - tuous shocks, The

*f*

Gt.

sta - ble earth, the deep salt sea, A - round the\_ old\_ e - ter - nal rocks.

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

SOPRANOS & ALTOS

I bind un - to\_ my - self\_ to - day\_ The pow - er of

This system contains the third and fourth staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line for Sopranos and Altos. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The piano part continues with a consistent accompaniment pattern.

God\_ to hold and lead, His eye\_ to\_ watch, His

This system contains the fifth and sixth staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The piano part continues with a consistent accompaniment pattern.

might to stay, — His ear to\_ heark - en to my

This system contains the seventh and eighth staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The piano part continues with a consistent accompaniment pattern.

*mp*

need. \_\_\_\_\_ The wis - dom of my God to teach, His

*mp*

hand to guide, His shield to ward; The word of God to give me

speech, His heaven-ly host to be my guard. A - gainst the de - mon

*mf*

*mf Sw.*

TENORS & BASSES

snares of sin, The vice that gives temp - ta - tion force, The

na - tur - al lusts that war with - in — The hos - tile — men — that

mar my course; — Or few — or ma - ny — far — or

nigh, In ev' - ry place, and in — all hours, A - gainst their

fierce hos - til - i - ty, — I — bind — to me — these ho - ly powers.

FULL

A - gainst all Sa - tan's spells and wiles, A - gainst false words of

he - re - sy, A - gainst the know - ledge that de - files, A -

-gainst the heart's i - do - la - try, A - gainst the wiz - ard's

*dim.*

e - vil craft, A - gainst the death-wound and the burning, The chok - ing

*dim.*

*p poco rall.*

wave, the poi-soned shaft, Pro - tect me, Christ, till Thy re - turn-ing.

*p*



In moderate time

FULL

Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, - Christ be-fore me, -

In moderate time.

Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re - store - me.

Full Sw.

*f a tempo*

Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui - et, - Christ in dan - ger, -

*rall*

Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran - ger.

Sw. *rall.*

## A little slower

FULL

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, Spi - rit, Word: Praise to the Lord of my sal - va - tion, Sal -

- va - tion is of Christ the Lord. A - men.