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

I bind unto myself today, The

strong name of the Trinity, By invocation

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

TENORS & BASSES

I bind this day to me for ever, By power of faith, Christ's

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In - car - na - tion; His bap - tism in Jor - dan
ri-ver; His death on cross for my sal-va-tion;

FULL
His bursting from the spic - ed tomb; His rid - ing
up the heav-en - ly way; His com-ing at the

day of doom; I bind un-to my-self to-day.
i bind unto myself the power of the great love of

Cherubim; The sweet "Well done" in judgment hour; The

service of the Seraphim, Confessors' faith, Apostles' word, The Patriarchs' prayers, the Prophets' scrolls, All good deeds done unto the Lord, And purity of virgin souls.
bind unto myself today

The virtues of the

star-lit heaven, The glorious sun's life-giving ray, The

whiteness of the moon at even, The flashing of the

ingning free, The whirling winds' tempestuous shocks, The
stable earth, the deep salt sea, Around the eternal rocks.

SOPRANOS & ALTOS

I bind unto myself today The power of

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

might to stay, His ear to hearken to my
need. The wisdom of my God to teach, His hand to guide, His shield to ward; The word of God to give me speech, His heavenly host to be my guard. Against the demon snares of sin, The vice that gives temptation force, The
natural lusts that war within. The hostile men that

mar my course; Or few or many far or

nigh, In every place, and in all hours, Against their

fierce hostility, I bind to me these holy powers.
Against all Satan's spells and wiles, Against false words of heresy, Against the knowledge that defiles,
Against the heart's idolatry, Against the wizard's evil craft, Against the death-wound and the burning, The choking
wave, the poisoned shaft, Protect me, Christ, till Thy returning.
In moderate time

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me.

In moderate time.

Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.

fa tempo

Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger.

rall

Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.
A little slower

FULL

I bind unto myself the name, The strong name of the Trini-

ty; By invocation of the same, The Three in One, and

One in Three. Of whom all nature hath creation; E-

ternal Father, Spirit, Word: Praise to the Lord of my salvation, Sal-

vation is of Christ the Lord. Amen.