## I bind unto myself today

attributed to Patrick of Ireland (432) translated by Cecil Frances Alexander (1889)

I bind unto myself to-day The strong Name of the Trinity, By invocation of the same, The Three in One and One in Three.

I bind this day to me for ever, By pow'r of faith, Christ's Incarnation; His baptism in Jordan river; His death on Cross for my salvation; His bursting from the spiced tomb; His riding up the Heav'nly way; His coming at the day of doom; I bind unto myself 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.

Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19

The Word became flesh. John 1:14

Jesus came... to the Jordan... to be baptized. Matthew 3:13

Christ died for our sins... he was raised on the third day. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4, cf. Galatians 2:20, Philippians 3:10

They took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices. John 19:40

"He has risen; he is not here." Mark 16:6

He was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. Acts 1:9

Christ Jesus... is to judge the living and the dead. 2 Timothy 4:1

Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Revelation 1:7

O Shepherd of Israel... you who are enthroned upon the cherubim... restore us... that we may be saved! *Psalm 80:1,3* "Well done, good and faithful servant. ...Enter into the joy of your master." *Matthew 25:21* 

The seraphim... said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!" ... One of the seraphim... touched my mouth and said: ... "Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." *Isaiah 6:2-3,6-7* 

Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? Hebrews 1:14, cf. Revelation 22:9

Satan... was thrown down. ... They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. Revelation 12:9-11

The gospel I preached to you... by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you. 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; cf. Matthew 28:19-20

Abraham still stood before the Lord. ... "Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked. ... Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" *Genesis* 18:22-25

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me ... then the LORD shall be my God." Genesis 28:20-21

All the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. Acts 10:43; cf. 1 Peter 1:10-12; cf., e.g., Isaiah 53

These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ...You shall bind them as a sign on your hand. *Deuteronomy* 6:6-8

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. ... I say this... not to lay any restraint upon you, but... to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord. 1 Corinthians 7:8,35

I bind unto myself to-day
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 lightning free,
The whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
The stable earth, the deep salt sea,
Around the old eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself to-day
The pow'r 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 poison'd shaft,
Protect me, Christ, till Thy returning.

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens... Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, ...stormy wind fulfilling his word! *Psalm 148:3-4,7-8; vf. Psalm 19:1, James 1:17, Psalm 104:4* 

He flashed forth lightnings and routed them. Psalm 18:14

"Even winds and sea obey him?" Matthew 8:27

You have established the earth, and it stands fast. Psalm 119:90, cf. Psalm 104:5

The people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground... and as the Egyptians fled into it, the Lord threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. *Exodus* 14:22,27

You, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for... salvation. 1 Peter 1:4-5

He leads me in paths of righteousness. Psalm 23:3

The eye of the Lord is on those who fear him. Psalm 33:18

The LORD hears the needy. Psalm 69:33

Hear instruction and be wise. Proverbs 8:33

Take up the whole armor of God... take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one. Ephesians 6:13,16; cf. Psalm 18:2

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom. Colossians 3:16

The Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 2 Kings 6:17

I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you. 1 Thessalonians 3:5

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Matthew 6:13

Keep me... from the snares of evildoers! Psalm 141:9

Each person is tempted... by his own desire. *James 1:14* 

God... will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape. 1

Corinthians 10:13

O Lord, ... preserve me from violent men, who have planned to trip up my feet. Psalm 140:4

These... cause divisions.... But you, beloved... keep yourselves in the love of God. Jude 19-21

The Lord... will... guard you against the evil one. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. Ephesians 6:11

He gave... the shepherds and teachers... so that we may no longer be... carried about by every wind of doctrine. *Ephesians* 4:11-14

"Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat." Genesis 2:17

They are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. *Jude 10* 

Your life is hidden with Christ in God. ... Put to death therefore ... covetousness, which is idolatry. Colossians 3:3,5

Elymas the magician... opposed them... But... Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, ...said, ... "The hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind." Acts 13:8-11

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and ...the rivers... shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. *Isaiah 43:2, cf. Daniel 3:17, Exodus 14:22, Acts 27:22-25* If they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them. *Mark 16:18* 

You will not fear... the arrow that flies by day. Psalm 91:5

Our Lord Jesus Christ... will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:8-9

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the Name, The strong Name of the Trinity; By invocation of the same, The Three in One, and One in Three. Of Whom all nature hath creation: Eternal Father, Spirit, Word: Praise to the Lord of my salvation, Salvation is of Christ the Lord. "I am with you always." Matthew 28:20

Christ in you, the hope of glory. Colossians 1:27

To comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ. *Ephesians 3:18-19 – cf. Whitley Stokes translation of the hymn:* "Christ in breadth, Christ in height, Christ in height!"

Death is swallowed up in victory. 1 Corinthians 15:54

Through Christ we share abundantly in comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:5

"I will be with him in trouble." Psalm 91:15

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." *John 16:33* 

So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Ephesians 3:17

To those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:2

But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. *Jude 20-21* 

God created the heavens and the earth... and the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. *Genesis* 1:1-2

The Word was God. ... All things were made through him. John 1:1,3; cf. Colossians 1:16

Salvation belongs to our God... and to the Lamb! Revelation 7:10

For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:9

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12