

for the Community of Sacred Heart Church, Southbury, CT,  
in loving memory of Janet Towey Mann, November 7, 2014

# Christ Within Me

Based on *St. Patrick's Breastplate*

Tom Kendzia

## INTRO (♩ = ca. 66)

Piano

F Bb/F F C/E A/C# Dm Gm7 C sus4 F Bb/C C

The piano introduction is in 4/4 time with a tempo of approximately 66 beats per minute. It features a series of chords and melodic lines in both the right and left hands. The chords are: F, Bb/F, F, C/E, A/C#, Dm, Gm7, C sus4, F, Bb/C, and C.

## VERSES 1-3

Soprano  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass

1. Christ be - fore me, Christ be - hind me, Christ with - in  
2. Christ in ev - ery eye that sees me, Christ with - in  
3. In my heart, my ver - y be - ing, Christ with - in

F Bb/F F C/E F Bb C

The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment are shown for the first three verses. The piano accompaniment includes the following chords: F, Bb/F, F, C/E, F, Bb, and C.

1. me; Christ a - bove me, Christ be - low me,  
2. me; Christ in ev - ery ear that hears me,  
3. me; In my thoughts, my words, my liv - ing,

F Bb/F C/F F Bb/F F C/E C Dm Dm/C

The vocal parts and piano accompaniment are shown for the final verse. The piano accompaniment includes the following chords: F, Bb/F, C/F, F, Bb/F, F, C/E, C, Dm, and Dm/C.



## VERSE 4

4. Christ be - fore me, Christ be - hind me, — Christ with - in —

G C/G G D/F# G G/B C D

4. me; Christ a - bove me, Christ be - low me, —

G C/G D/F# G C/G G D/F# D Em Em/D

4. Christ with - in — me. On the lips of —

C Am7 D C/D G Am G/B C D/C

4. friend and strang - er, Christ in all who love me; Christ in qui - et,

G/B Em F C/E Dsus4 D G C/G G

4. Christ in dan - ger, Christ with - in me.

D/F# B/D# Em Am D G C/G G

4. Christ with - in me. Christ with - in me.

*rit.*

C D G Am7 G/B C Am D G

*rit.*

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# Christ Within Me

(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on *St. Patrick's Breastplate*

Tom Kendzia

## INTRO (♩ = ca. 66)

Capo 3: (D) (G/D) (D) (A/C#) (F#/A#) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus4) (D) (G/A) (A)  
F Bb/F F C/E A/C# Dm Gm7 Csus4 F Bb/C C



## VERSES 1-3

(D) (G/D) (D) (A/C#) (D) (G) (A) (D) (G/D) (A/D)  
F Bb/F F C/E F Bb C F Bb/F C/F



1. Christ be - fore me, Christ be - hind me, Christ with - in me; \_\_\_\_\_
2. Christ in ev - ery eye that sees me, Christ with - in me; \_\_\_\_\_
3. In my heart, my ver - y be - ing, Christ with - in me; \_\_\_\_\_

(D) (G/D) (D) (A/C#) (A) (Bm) (Bm/A) (G) (Em7) (A) (D) (Em) (D/F#)  
F Bb/F F C/E C Dm Dm/C Bb Gm7 C F Gm F/A



1. Christ a - bove me, Christ be - low me, Christ with - in me.
2. Christ in ev - ery ear that hears me, Christ with - in me;
3. In my thoughts, my words, my liv - ing, Christ with - in me;

(G) (A/G) (D/F#) (Bm) (C) (G/B) (Asus4) (A) (A/C#)  
Bb C/Bb F/A Dm Eb Bb/D Csus4 C C/E



1. On the lips of friend and strang - er, Christ in all who love me; \_\_\_\_\_
2. Christ in ev - ery path I take, in ev - ery choice I make; \_\_\_\_\_
3. In the morn - ing when I a - rise, at night when I fall in sleep; \_\_\_\_\_


(D) (G/D) (D) (A/C#) (F#/A#) (Bm) (Em) (A) 1-2 3  
F Bb/F F C/E A/C# Dm Gm C F Gm7 Bb/C F Bb/F F



1. Christ in qui - et, Christ in dan - ger, Christ with - in me. \_\_\_\_\_
2. In the beau - ty of cre - a - tion, Christ with - in me. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Christ to com - fort and re - store me, Christ with - in me. \_\_\_\_\_


## VERSE 4

(E) (A/E) (E) (B/D#) (E) (E/G#) (A) (B)  
 G C/G G D/F# G G/B C D




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

(E) (A/E) (B/D#) (E) (A/E) (E) (B/D#) (B) (C#m) (C#m/B) (A) (F#m7) (B) (A/B)  
 G C/G D/F# G C/G G D/F# D Em Em/D C Am7 D C/D




4. me; Christ a - bove me, Christ be - low me, Christ with - in

(E) (F#m) (E/G#) (A) (B/A) (E/G#) (C#m) (D) (A/C#)  
 G Am G/B C D/C G/B Em F C/E



4. me. On the lips of friend and strang - er, Christ in all who love


(Bsus4) (B) (E) (A/E) (E) (B/D#) (G#/B#) (C#m) (F#m) (B)  
 Dsus4 D G C/G G D/F# B/D# Em Am D



4. me; Christ in qui - et, Christ in dan - ger, Christ with - in

(E) (A/E) (E) (A) (B) (E) (F#m7) (E/G#) (A) (F#m7) (B) (E)  
 G C/G G C D G Am7 G/B C Am7 D G

*rit.*



4. me. Christ with - in me. Christ with - in me.

## Assembly Edition

CHRIST WITHIN ME

Tom Kendzia

1,4. Christ be - fore me, Christ be - hind me, Christ with - in me;  
2. Christ in ev - ery eye that sees me, Christ with - in me;  
3. In my heart, my ver - y be - ing, Christ with - in me;

1,4. Christ a - bove me, Christ be - low me, Christ with - in me.  
2. Christ in ev - ery ear that hears me, Christ with - in me;  
3. In my thoughts, my words, my liv - ing, Christ with - in me;

1,4. On the lips of friend and strang - er, Christ in all who love me;  
2. Christ in ev - ery path I take, in ev - ery choice I make;  
3. In the morn - ing when I a - rise, at night when I fall in sleep;

1,4. Christ in qui - et, Christ in dan - ger, Christ with - in me.  
2. In the beau - ty of cre - a - tion, Christ with - in me.  
3. Christ to com - fort and re - store me, Christ with - in me.

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## Composer Notes

“Christ Within Me” was commissioned by a parish choir to honor the memory of a beloved member of Irish heritage.

The prayer is known as *St. Patrick's Breastplate*, and it is a beautiful text that I have longed to set to music for many years. This seemed like the right time and incentive to work on this marriage of familiar words and song.

This is in basic hymn form structure, and I tried to capture the powerful simplicity of an Irish folk song and traditional music in this setting. While it is scored for SATB choir, this piece could be easily done by a soloist, small vocal group, or schola. Guitar and other folk instruments are ideal in supporting the intimacy of the lyrics and the lilt of the melody.

The recording offers a full-blown production with large choir, band, and traditional Irish instruments, including pipes. Make it your own!

—Tom Kendzia