God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me
O Christ, Surround Me

1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to myself the Name of Holy, great cloud of witness-
3 Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning,
4 Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that

move my voice; God, be the strength to now uphold me:
embrace; prophets, apostles, angels witness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of planet:
light my way, and from beneath, above, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). Many such petitions for God's presence and protection were never written down, but this one is based on an example attributed to St. Patrick.

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GREEN TYLER
9.8.9.5.5