

I will set you free

Liberābō tē

excerpted from the Confession and Epistle of
PATRICK OF IRELAND (c. 385 – c. 461)

Everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ...If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. *John 8:34, 36*

Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you. *Psalms 50:15*

Deum diligere dōnum salūbre.
Aperuit sēnsū Dominus
Ut converterem tōtō corde
Ad Dominum Deum.

Our holy God who makes us whole
Gave us himself to love and know.
We turn to him with all our soul,
And so our love can grow.

Haec est cōfessiō: ego peccātor.
Quī facit peccātum servus est.
In suā misericordiā
Dominus liberāvit mē.

We confess that we are sinners.
God has saved us—hear and see!
Though we had been enslaved to sin,
His mercy set us free!

Chorus

Dixit, “Liberābō tē;
Invocā mē in diē
Tribulātiōnis tuae.”
Dominus liberāvit mē.

Chorus

God said, “I will set you free.
When you’re in trouble, call on me.”
We all were in captivity
Until God set us free.

Resolūtī ex vinculis
In glōriā resurgēmus
Christī Jēsū redēptōris
Caelōrum in rēgnō.

Though we are bound, he’ll loose our chain,
And though we die, still we will rise.
Where death will be no more we’ll reign
With Christ in paradise.

Haec est mea cōfessiō:
Dominus mē cōnsōlātus est.
“Omnēs gentēs docēte,
Et liberābō tē.”

This is our declaration!
God is our consolation!
He calls from every nation
His people to be free!

Chorus

Chorus

The Latin text above can be more literally translated:

To love God is a gift that makes us whole. (*Conf.* 36) The Lord awakened my perception, so that I would turn to the Lord God with my whole heart. (*Conf.* 2) This is my confession: (*Conf.* 62) I am a sinner. (*Conf.* 1) “Whoever commits sin is a slave.” (*Epist.* 4, quoting John 8:34) In his mercy, (*Conf.* 12) the Lord set me free. (*Conf.* 21) He said, “I will set you free; call on me in the day of your trouble.” (*Conf.* 5, quoting Psalm 50:15) The Lord set me free. (*Conf.* 21) Set free from chains, (*Epist.* 17) we will rise from death in the glory of Christ Jesus our redeemer (*Conf.* 59) in the kingdom of heaven. (*Epist.* 18) This is my declaration: (*Conf.* 62) the Lord consoled me. (*Conf.* 2) “Teach all nations,” (*Conf.* 40, quoting Matthew 28:19) “and I will set you free.” (*Conf.* 5, quoting Psalm 50:15)

Latin: Patrick of Ireland, *Confession* 1, 2, 5, 12, 21, 36, 40, 59, 62, and *Epistle* 4, 17, 18; excerpted, rearranged, and with orthographic changes (macrons, *v* for consonantal *u*, and punctuation) by Adam F McCune.

English translation by Adam F McCune. The English translation draws on additional material from Patrick of Ireland, *Confession* 14, 16, 33, *Epistle* 19, 20.

Both the Latin and the English can be sung to the folk tune *Wellerman*.

The text of the song “I will set you free” (*Liberabo te*) is drawn from the following passages in the Confession and Epistle of Patrick of Ireland, sometimes with a change in word order. The words in bold are used in the Latin text of the song, and the words in italics are additionally adapted in the English text of the song. The passages below do not have macrons added and use *u* for both the vowel and consonant.

Unde mihi postmodum **donum** tam magnum tam **salubre**
Deum *agnoscere uel diligere?* (Conf. 36)

Where did it come to me from so soon, this gift that is so great,
that so fully makes us whole—the gift of knowing and loving
God? (Conf. 36)

Dominus aperuit sensum incredulitatis meae, **ut ...**
conuerterem toto corde ad Dominum Deum meum. (Conf. 2)

The Lord awakened my perception of my unbelief, **so that I**
would turn to the Lord my God with my whole heart. (Conf. 2)

Magis ac magis accedebat amor Dei et timor ipsius. (Conf. 16)

My love for God and my awe of him increased more and more. (Conf. 16)

Haec est confessio mea. (Conf. 62)

This is my confession. (Conf. 62)

Ego... peccator. (Conf. 1)

I am a sinner. (Conf. 1)

“Qui facit peccatum seruus est.” (Epist. 4)

“Whoever commits sin is a slave” (John 8:34). (Epist. 4)

Liberauit me Dominus. (Conf. 21)

The Lord set me free. (Conf. 21)

Verba ... Dei ... sunt: **“Qui crediderit saluus erit.”**
(Epist. 20)

These are the words of God: **“Whoever believes will be saved”**
(Mark 16:16). (Epist. 20)

Qui potens est... **in sua misericordia...** adleuauit... me. (Conf. 12)

In his mercy, he who is mighty raised me up. (Conf. 12)

Ipse enim **dixit** per prophetam: **“Inuoca me in die**
tribulationis tuae et liberabo te.” (Conf. 5)

He said through his prophet, **“Call on me in the day of your**
trouble, and I will set you free” (Psalm 50:15). (Conf. 5)

Donum Dei... largitus est nobis in terra *captiuitatis* meae. (Conf. 33)

The gift of God has been lavished on us in the land of my
captivity. (Conf. 33)

Liberauit me Dominus. (Conf. 21)

The Lord set me free. (Conf. 21)

Deo gratias, creduli baptizati... *ubi non erit... mors amplius...*
exultabitis ... **ex uinculis resoluti.** (Epist. 17)

Thanks be to God, you baptized believers will rejoice, **set free**
from chains, where death will be no more. (Epist. 17)

Resurgemus ... in gloria Christi Iesu redemptoris nostri.
(Conf. 59)

We will rise from death in the glory of Christ Jesus our
redeemer. (Conf. 59)

Regnabitis ... in regno caelorum. (Epist. 18)

You will reign in the kingdom of heaven. (Epist. 18)

Iusti ... epulentur in magna constantia *cum Christo*, iudicabunt
nationes et *regibus* iniquis dominabuntur in saecula saeculorum.
(Epist. 19)

The righteous will feast in great harmony *with Christ*. They will
judge the nations and *rule* over wicked kings into endless ages.
(Epist. 19)

Haec est confessio mea. (Conf. 62)

This is my declaration. (Conf. 62)

Dominus ... consolatus est me ut pater filium. (Conf. 2)

The Lord consoled me as a father consoles his son. (Conf. 2)

Oportet ... notum facere donum Dei et *consolationem* aeternam.
(Conf. 14)

We must make known the gift of God and his eternal *consolation*.
(Conf. 14)

Dominus inquit in euangelio...: “Euntes ergo nunc **docete**
omnes gentes baptizantes eas in nomine Patris et Filii et
Spiritus Sancti.” ... Et in Osee dicit: “*Uocabo* non plebem meam
plebem meam.” (Conf. 40)

The Lord says in the gospel: “Now, therefore, **teach all**
nations, going and baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). And
through Hosea he says: “Those who were not my people, *I will*
call my people” (Hosea 2:24). (Conf. 40)

Ipse enim dixit per prophetam: “Inuoca me in die tribulationis
tuae **et liberabo te** et magnificabis me.” (Conf. 5)

He said through his prophet, “Call on me in the day of your
trouble, **and I will set you free**” (Psalm 50:15). (Conf. 5)