

# Blessing On The Ship

from "The Birlinn":  
for SATB choir and piano

Music: Chris Hutchings  
Words: Donald Campbell,  
translated from the Gaelic of  
Alistair MacMhaighstir Alistair

**Solemn** ♩ = 96

*mf*

Soprano Alto  
Tenor Bass

Lord, bless the boat of Clan - ra - nald on our first day un - der sail,

Lord, bless the boat of Clan - ra - nald on our first day un - der sail,

(Piano tacet until bar 8: give starting D quietly if needed)

**Piu vivace** ♩ = 108

*f*

Soprano Alto  
Tenor Bass

Cap - tain, crew and ship to - ge - ther, strong in pur - pose, not to fail.

Cap - tain, crew and ship to - ge - ther, strong in pur - pose, not to fail.

**Piu vivace** ♩ = 108

*f* *mp*

Pno.

(pedal ad lib.)

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**Con spirito** ♩ = 96

*poco rit.*

*f*

Soprano Alto  
Tenor Bass

O Name of all that's ho - ly! Ba - nish

O Name of all that's ho - ly! Ba - nish

**Con spirito** ♩ = 96

*poco rit.*

*f*

Pno.

Blessing On The Ship

15

S  
A

tem-pest from the sky! *mp* Let the sea be swept of squal-ling for our bea-ching, *rall.*

T  
B

tem-pest from the sky! *mp* Let the sea be swept of squal - ling for our bea - ching, *rall.*

Pno.

20

S  
A

by and by. *p*

T  
B

by and by. *p*

Pno.

20 *a tempo*

*p* *cresc.*

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25

S  
A

Fa - ther, who formed the o - cean and the wind from e - v'ry airt, *mf*

T  
B

Fa - ther, who formed the o - cean and the

Pno.

25 *mf*

Fa - ther, who formed the o - cean and the wind,

Blessing On The Ship

lay your bles - sing on our rig-ging, and pre - serve us in good heart.

lay your bles - sing on our rig-ging, and pre - serve us in good heart.

wind, pre - serve us in good heart.

now pre - serve us in good heart.

Pno.

Son of Man, hold hard our an-chor, hold our helm, our sails and gear.

Son of Man, hold our an-chor, hold our helm, our sails and gear. Nail your

Pno.

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Nail your can - vas to our mast now, e - v'ry voy-age guard from fear.

can - vas to our mast now, e - v'ry voy-age guard from fear.

Pno.

Blessing On The Ship

4

45

S  
A

T  
B

*piu pesante* *mf*

Bless e - v'ry hoop and

45

Pno.

49

T  
B

hal-yard, e - v'ry ca-ble, arm and mast. Stea-dy stays and stea-dy

49

Pno.

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53

S  
A

T  
B

*rit.*

grace our cou-rage to the last.

hois-tings, grace our cou-rage to the last.

53

Pno.

*rit.*  
*espress.*  
*dim. poco a poco*

(place a slight pause on each of these quaver rests)

58 **Maestoso** ♩ = c. 78

*p* *piu cresc.*

S  
A  
T  
B

Ho - ly Spi - rit, pi - lot our sai - ling, steer a

Ho - ly Spi - rit, pi - lot our sai - ling, steer a

Pno.

62 *mf* *mp* *rit.* *dim.*

S  
A  
T  
B

course where all is fair. No port is furth of your know - ing, keep us

course where all is fair. No port is furth of your know - ing, keep us

66 **Lento** ♩ = 60 *rit.* *p* *pp*

S  
A  
T  
B

e - ver in your care. (keep us e - ver in your care)

e - ver in your care. (keep us e - ver in your care)