The Aviator's Hymn

As sung by John Galusha

Tune: Variant of Blue Mountain Lake

With steady rhythm \( \frac{\text{j}}{\text{m}} = 68 \)

1. Come all you bold heroes, wherever you are, Who fight for your freedom on land, sea or air; Come listen, I'll sing you a song once again Of those bold, dashing, daredevils, go-getter men; Derry down, down, down der-ry down.

2. When the sun it goes down and darkness appears We will load up with bombs and for Germany steer For to blast Hitler's Nazis again and again Till we're rambling rakes of go-getter men Derry down, down, down derry down.

3. We will land in the morning and merrily sing Drink up our grog and go on a binge When we're ready to gamble with death once again For we're rambling rakes of go-getter men Derry down, down, down derry down.

4. At the shadows of evening, we'll hike for the skies And meet the damned Heinies and fight till we die For we value our freedoms 'til death doth it end For we're rambling rakes of go-getter men Derry down, down, down derry down.

5. And now to conclude and finish my song About those bold heroes that fight brave and strong Who follow their foes so persistent and long Through the gilt-edge of hell or their planes will go down For they're rambling rakes of go-getter men! And ready to die with their flying boots on! Derry down, down, down derry down.

+ Please note that the key is D dorian, a variant of the standard minor key. The sixth note of the scale is sung as B natural rather than B flat.
* Sing the sixteenth notes on verses 3 & 4.
** Sing the quarter note/eighth note pattern on verses 2 & 5.
*** On verse 3, sing the quarter note as a dotted quarter note; on verse 4, sing it as written stems down.
**** Sing the stems down rhythms on verses 2, 3 & 4.
On verse 5, sing the fifth and sixth lines to the music of the third and fourth phrases (with the necessary adjustments).