

### **HYMN**

Come to a wedding,  
Come to a blessing,  
Come on a day when happiness sings!  
Come rain or sun,  
Come winter or summer,  
Celebrate love and all that it brings.

Thanks for the love,  
That holds us together,  
Parent and child, and lover and friend;  
Thanks to the God,  
Whose love is our centre,  
Source of compassion, knowing no end.

Love is the gift,  
And love is the giver,  
Love is the gold that  
Makes the day shine;  
Love forgets self to care for the other,  
Love changes life from water to wine.

Come to this wedding,  
Asking a blessing,  
For all the years that living will prove;  
Health of the body,  
Health of the spirit,  
Now to you both we offer our love.

### **PREFACE**

*Congregation please sit*

## **THE DECLARATIONS**

*Congregation stands*

*The priest says to the congregation*  
Will you, the families and friends of  
George and Lucy  
support and uphold them in their marriage  
now and in the years to come?

**We will.**

## **THE COLLECT**

*Congregation stands*

## **READING**

1 Corinthians 13, by Doreen Fairman

I may be able to speak the languages of human beings and even of angels,  
but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell.

I may have the gift of inspired preaching;

I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets;

I may have all the faith needed to move mountains –

but if I have no love, I am nothing.

I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burnt –

but if I have no love, this does me no good.

Love is patient and kind;

it is not jealous or conceited or proud;

love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable;

love does not keep a record of wrongs;

love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth.

Love never gives up;

and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.

Love is eternal.

There are inspired messages, but they are temporary;  
there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but they will cease;  
there is knowledge, but it will pass.

For our gifts of knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial;  
but when what is perfect comes, then what is partial will disappear.  
When I was a child, my speech, feelings, and thinking were all those of a child;  
now that I have grown up, I have no more use for childish ways.

What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror;  
then we shall see face to face.

What I know now is only partial;  
then it will be complete —  
as complete as God's knowledge of me.

Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope, and love;  
and the greatest of these is love.

## **ADDRESS**

### **THE BLESSING OF THE RINGS**

#### **THE PROCLAMATION**

*The priest binds the right hands together*  
Those whom God has joined together  
let no one put asunder.

#### **THE NUPTIAL BLESSING**

### **THE PRAYERS**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be they name;  
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **HYMN**

We pledge to one another, before the Lord above,  
entire and whole and perfect, this union of our love;  
a love that will be patient, a love that will be wise,  
that will not twist with envy, nor lose itself in lies;  
a love that will not falter, a love to hold us fast,  
and bind us to each other as long as life shall last.

We pray that God will guide us through all the years to be,  
our lives be shaped by courage, hope and serenity.  
Through joy and celebration, through loneliness and pain,  
may loyalty, compassion and tenderness remain,  
that those who share the blessing of love that cannot cease  
may walk the paths of gentleness into the place of peace.

*All stand and the congregation prepare themselves with the confetti*

### **BLESSING**

#### **DEPARTURE OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM**

The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba, Handel