

HYMN

**Father hear the prayer we offer;
Not for ease that prayer shall be,
But for strength that we may ever
Live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures
Do we ask our way to be;
But the steep and rugged pathway
May we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters
Would we idly rest and stay;
But would smite the living fountains
From the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,
In our wanderings be our guide;
Through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.**

PREFACE

THE DECLARATIONS

Will you, the family and friends of Melissa and Alexander, support and uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come?

We will.

THE COLLECT

POEM

An extract from Captain Correlli's Mandolin, by Louis de Bernieres
Read by Clair Wells

READING

A reading from Song of Solomon 2.10-13; 8.6,7,
Read by Charles Warden

THE ADDRESS

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.**

THE MARRIAGE

The Vows

The Giving of Rings

The Proclamation

The Blessing of the Marriage

PRAYERS

In conclusion, the congregation joins together saying,

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy 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 them that 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.**