**Order of Service**

Smethwick Old Church



Thanksgiving for the marriage between

**Leonie Jean Martin**

**and**

**Carlos Timon Lopez**

Saturday 21st June 2025, at 1.30 pm

**Introduction and Welcome**

The Reverend Sara Moore

**Prayer**

**Hymn**

*Come down, O love divine (238)*

**Come down, O Love divine,**

**seek thou this soul of mine,**

**and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;**

**O Comforter, draw near,**

**within my heart appear,**

**and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,**

**till earthly passions turn**

**to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;**

**and let thy glorious light**

**shine ever on my sight,**

**and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity**

**Mine outward vesture be,**

**And lowliness become mine inner clothing:**

**True lowliness of heart,**

**Which takes the humbler part,**

**And o’er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,**

**with which the soul will long,**

**shall far outpass the power of human telling;**

**for none can guess its grace,**

**till Love create a place**

**wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

(Bianco da Siena 15th century)

**Reading**:

**Tell Me the Truth about Love**

Jean Martin

Some say love's a little boy,

And some say it's a bird,

Some say it makes the world go round,

And some say that's absurd,

And when I asked the man next door,

Who looked as if he knew,

His wife got very cross indeed,

And said it wouldn't do.

Does it look like a pair of pyjamas,

Or the ham in a temperance hotel?

Does its odour remind one of llamas,

Or has it a comforting smell?

Is it prickly to touch as a hedge is,

Or soft as eiderdown fluff?

Is it sharp or quite smooth at the edges?

O tell me the truth about love.

Our history books refer to it

In cryptic little notes,

It's quite a common topic on

The Transatlantic boats;

I've found the subject mentioned in

Accounts of suicides,

And even seen it scribbled on

The backs of railway guides.

Does it howl like a hungry Alsatian,

Or boom like a military band?

Could one give a first-rate imitation

On a saw or a Steinway Grand?

Is its singing at parties a riot?

Does it only like Classical stuff?

Will it stop when one wants to be quiet?

O tell me the truth about love.

I looked inside the summer-house;

It wasn't ever there;

I tried the Thames at Maidenhead,

And Brighton's bracing air,

I don't know what the blackbird sang,

Or what the tulip said;

But it wasn't in the chicken-run,

Or underneath the bed.

Can it pull extraordinary faces?

Is it usually sick on a swing?

Does it spend all its time at the races,

Or fiddling with pieces of string?

Has it views of its own about money?

Does it think Patriotism enough?

Are its stories vulgar but funny?

O tell me the truth about love.

When it comes, will it come without warning,

Just as I'm picking my nose?

Will it knock on my door in the morning,

Or tread in the bus on my toes?

Will it come like a change in the weather?

Will its greeting be courteous or rough?

Will it alter my life altogether?

O tell me the truth about love.

(W. H. Auden)

**… but chiefly yourselves**:

*(an opportunity to sing)*

**If I should plant a tiny seed of love**

**If I should plant a tiny seed of love**

**In the garden of your heart**

**Would it grow to be a great big love some day**

**Or would it die and fade away?**

**Would you care for it and tend it ev’ry day**

**Till the time when all must part**

**If I should plant a tiny seed of love**

**In the garden of your heart?**

(Macdonald and Tate, 1909)

**Reading**:

**Paul’s Letter to the Church in Rome**

Felicity Martin

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members

have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,

and individually we are members one of another.

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us:

prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering;

the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation;

the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence;

the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;

do not claim to be wiser than you are.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.

(Romans 12:4-21)

**Address**

Paul Martin

**Blessing of Marriage**

**Repeat of Vows**

The Reverend Sara Moore

.. to have and to hold from that day forward,

for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,

till death us do part, according to God’s holy law,

and this was our solemn vow.

Today, in the presence of our family and friends,

we affirm our continuing commitment to this vow.

**Prayers**

**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 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**

*Give me joy in my heart (638)*

**Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,**

**give me joy in my heart, I pray;**

**give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,**

**keep me praising till the break of day:**

**Refrain**

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,***

***sing hosanna to the King of kings!***

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,***

***sing hosanna to the King!***

**Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,**

**give me peace in my heart, I pray;**

**give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,**

**keep me loving till the break of day.**

**Refrain**

**Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,**

**give me love in my heart, I pray;**

**give me love in my heart, keep me serving,**

**keep me serving till the break of day.**

**Refrain**

(Author Unknown)

**Blessing**

The Reverend Sara Moore

*War March of the Priests*

Felix Mendelssohn

(played by: David Fereday)

With thanks to Sara, David, Joyce and to

Steve and the Old Church Ringers

for their generous contributions to this joyous day.



