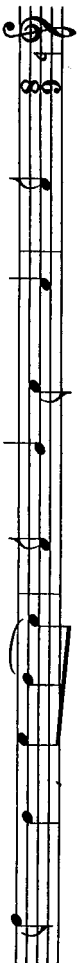


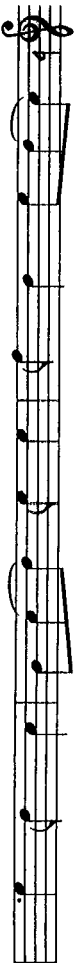
# #1 Blessing the Marriage



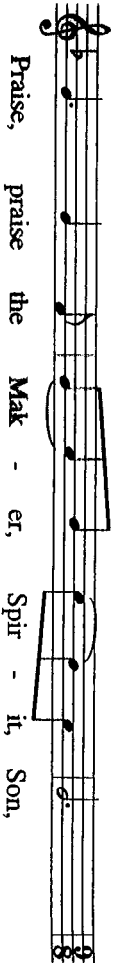
1. That hu - man life might rich - er be, That
2. As two we love are wed this day And
3. Par - ents and fam - i - lies they leave, Their
4. This is as God meant it to be, That
5. Then, bless the bride - groom, bless the bride, The



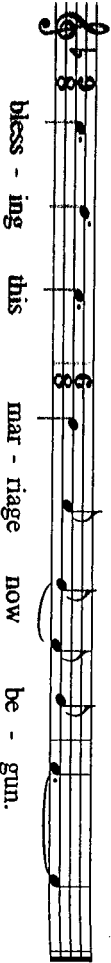
chil - dren may be named and known, That love finds its own  
 we stand wit - ness to their vow, We call on God, the  
 own new fam - i - ly to make; And, shar - ing what their  
 man and wom - an should be one And live in love and  
 dreams they dream, the hopes they share; And thank the Lord whose



sanc - tua - ry, That those in love stay not a - lone.  
 Trin - i - ty, To sanc - ti - fy their pledg - es now.  
 pasts have taught, They shape it for the fu - ture's sake.  
 love through life, As Christ on earth has taught and done.  
 love in - spires The joy their lips and ours de - clare.



Praise, praise the Mak - er, Spir - it, Son,



bless - ing this mar - riage now be - gun.

Text: Helen L. Paul, b.1949, © 1989, Kegan Company, GIA Publications, Inc., 8901  
 Thane, SURREX CAROL, 8 8 8 8 88; lyrics by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

# #2 BRIDAL PRAYER (Copelan)

Here in this holy place,  
 as we stand before th Father, and stand before the Son;  
 Here in this quiet hour,  
 In the presence of the Spirit, our lives become as one.

To listen when God calls us, and follow where he leads,  
 To be the kind of servants he needs.

Here in these sacred vows we pledge our lives together,  
 To love and serve in Jesus' name.

# #3 GIFT OF LOVE

Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
 And have the gift to all inspire  
 And have not love; my words are vain,  
 As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess  
 And striving so my love profess,  
 But not be giv'n by love within  
 The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come Spirit come, our hearts control.  
 Our spirits long to be made whole.  
 Let inward love guide ev'ry deed.  
 By this we worship and are freed.

#5

# In Love We Choose to Live *(# 4 3 5)*

Refrain

Love is pa - tient, love is kind.

Love is read - y to for - give,

In our love new hope is found. In

love we choose to live.

Verses

1. May love be our home; rest to soothe tired bones.  
 May love be healing for our wounds.  
 May love speak the truth; free us from our fear.  
 May love be the heart of our anger!  
 For...

2. May love be the sun shining in our darkness.  
 May love fill the lives of our children.  
 May love be our strength, to live a life of justice.  
 May love be our call to live the Kingdom!  
 For...

## #4 HOW BEAUTIFUL

How beautiful the hands that served  
 The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.  
 How beautiful the feet that walked  
 The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.  
 How beautiful ----- is the Body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled,  
 That took all my sin and bore it instead.  
 How beautiful the tender eyes  
 That chose to forgive and never despise.  
 How beautiful ----- is the Body of Christ.

And as he laid down his life, we offer this sacrifice.  
 That we will live just as he died:  
 Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant bride  
 Who waits for her groom with his light in her eyes.  
 How beautiful when humble hearts give  
 The fruit of pure lives so that others may live.  
 How beautiful ----- is the Body of Christ.

Text: 1 Corinthians 13; Jeanne Cotter, b.1964  
 Tune: Jeanne Cotter, b.1964  
 © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

# Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels

## #6 LAUDATE DOMINUM (Mozart)

(loose English translation)  
 Praise the Lord all nations,  
 Praise Him all peoples.

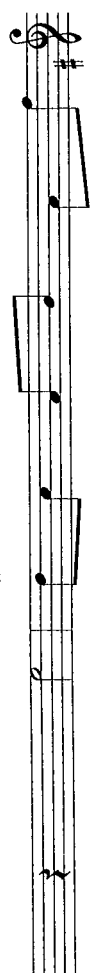
All confirm his greatness,  
 His mercy and truth,  
 He remains the true Lord forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
 And to the Holy Spirit,  
 As it was in the beginning, is now,  
 And ever shall be forever. Amen.

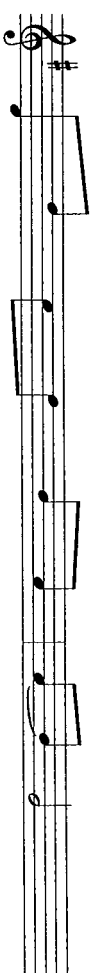


1. Not for tongues of heav - en's an - gels,
2. Love is hum - ble, love is gen - tle,
3. Nev - er jeal - ous, nev - er self - ish,
4. Soon will fade the word of wis - dom,

Not for wis - dom to dis - cern,  
 Love is ten - der, true, and kind;  
 Love will not re - joice in wrong;  
 Faith and hope be one day past:



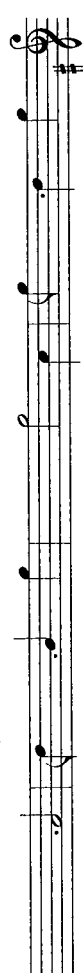
Not for faith that mas - ters moun - tains,  
 Love is gra - cious, ev - er pa - tient,  
 Nev - er boast - ful nor re - sent - ful,  
 When we see our Sav - ior clear - ly,



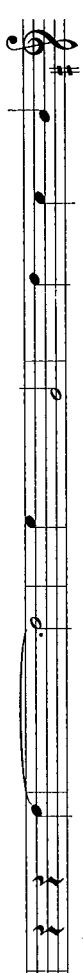
For this bet - ter gift we yearn:  
 Gen - er - ous of heart and mind—  
 Love be - lieves and suf - fers long—  
 Love it is a - lone will last



May love be ours, Lord; may love be ours.



May love be ours, O Lord.



## #7 LOVE IS THE BOAT FOR THE JOURNEY

You are the way to heaven's yielding fold.  
 You are the truth bringing freedom.  
 You are the life burning deep within our hearts,  
 For you are the boat for the journey.

You are the stream where flows the path of life,  
 Guiding the way for disciples.  
 Though storms may arise you calm the fear inside,  
 For you are the boat for the journey.

You are our God, the living, saving Word.  
 You are the banquet of justice.  
 You know our pain; you lift us from our shame,  
 For you are the boat for the journey.

We'll sing this song of never ending joy,  
 Filled with the truth of your gospel.  
 With faith, hope, and love, we claim your living Word,  
 For you are the boat for the journey.  
 Love is the boat for the journey.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b.1926, © 1985, Hope Publishing Co.  
 Tune: COMFORT, 8787 with refrain, Michael Joncas, b.1951, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

## #11 Tis the Gift to Be Simple (Simple Gifts)

Tis the gift to be simple, tis the gift to be free,  
Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be;  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

Ref. When true simplicity is gained  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.  
To turn, turn, will be our delight,  
Till by turning, turning we come out right.

Tis the gift to be gentle, tis the gift to be fair.  
Tis the gift to wake and breathe the morning air;  
And every day to walk in the path we choose,  
Tis the gift that we pray we may ne'er come to lose.

Tis the gift to be loving, tis the best gift of all,  
Like a quiet rain, it blesses where it falls;  
And if we have the gift, we will truly believe  
Tis better to give than it is to receive.

## #12 Today and Tomorrow (Lori True)

Today we have gathered to witness and bless  
Two lives joined together through vows they profess:  
"Today and tomorrow I'll go where you go.  
Your home shall be my home; your God I shall know.

We pray that the Spirit will guide you in peace,  
That through changing seasons your love may increase.  
Respect one another; receive as you give.  
God's love light your pathway as long as you live.

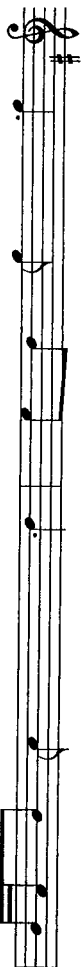
Praise god, come to meet us and share human life.  
Our holy companion in joy and in strife.  
May God, who is faithful, give grace to us all  
To go where Christ leads us and answer love's call.

## #13 When Love Is Found

1. When love is found and hope comes
2. When love has flow'ed in trust and
3. When love is tried loved - ones
4. When love is torn and trust be -
5. Praise God for love, praise God for



home, Sing and be glad that two are  
care, Build both each day that love may  
change, Hold still to hope through all seems  
trayed, Pray strength to love youth, in till tor - ments  
life, In age or love, hus - band,



one. When love ex - plodes and fills the  
dare To reach be - yond home's warmth and  
strange, Till ease re - turns no love grows  
fade, Till lov - ers keep hearts let score of  
wife. Lift up your hearts be



sky, Praise God and share joy.  
light, To serve and strive right.  
wise Through His - t'ning ears and opened eyes.  
wrong But hear through pain love's Eas - ter song.  
fed Through death and life in bro - ken bread.



#7

# A Nuptial Blessing

857

Refrain

May God bless you, hold and keep you; may God's mer - cy

shine on you, guide your work and guard your rest - ing,

keep your love for ev - er new.

Verses

1. May God satisfy your longing, be refreshment at your table,  
and provide your daily bread,  
guard your going and your coming, be the solace in your silence:  
life within the lives you wed.

2. May God join your hopeful spirits, fill your hearts with truth and courage,  
trust to share both joy and tears,  
teach love to your children's children; may your household learn to witness  
living faith through all your years.

3. May God make your home a refuge where you warmly welcome strangers  
and the lowly find a place;  
make you caring, kind companions, help you meet the needs of neighbors,  
finding Christ in every face.

Text: Vicki Klima, b.1952; adapt. by Michael Joncas, b.1951, and George Szawo, b.1951  
Tune: Michael Joncas, b.1951  
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#10

# Set Your Heart on the Higher Gifts

611

Refrain

Set your heart on the high - er gifts, on the

things that come from your Mak - er in heav - en.

These three gifts are all that re-main: faith, hope and love,

and the great - est is love.

Verses

1. If I speak with the tongues of the liv - ing,  
2. And if I understand ev - 'ry mys - t'ry,  
3. And if I should re - nounce all my rich - es,

and of an - gels, but speak with - out love, I am  
hav - ing wis - dom, but think with - out love, had I  
feed the hun - gry, give o - ver my life; with - out

on - ly brass with - out song, an emp - ty noise on the wind.  
faith to scat - ter the hills, I am noth - ing at all.  
love my prof - it is loss, my car - ing finds no re - ward.

D.C.

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Steven C. Warner, b.1954  
Tune: Steven C. Warner, b.1954  
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