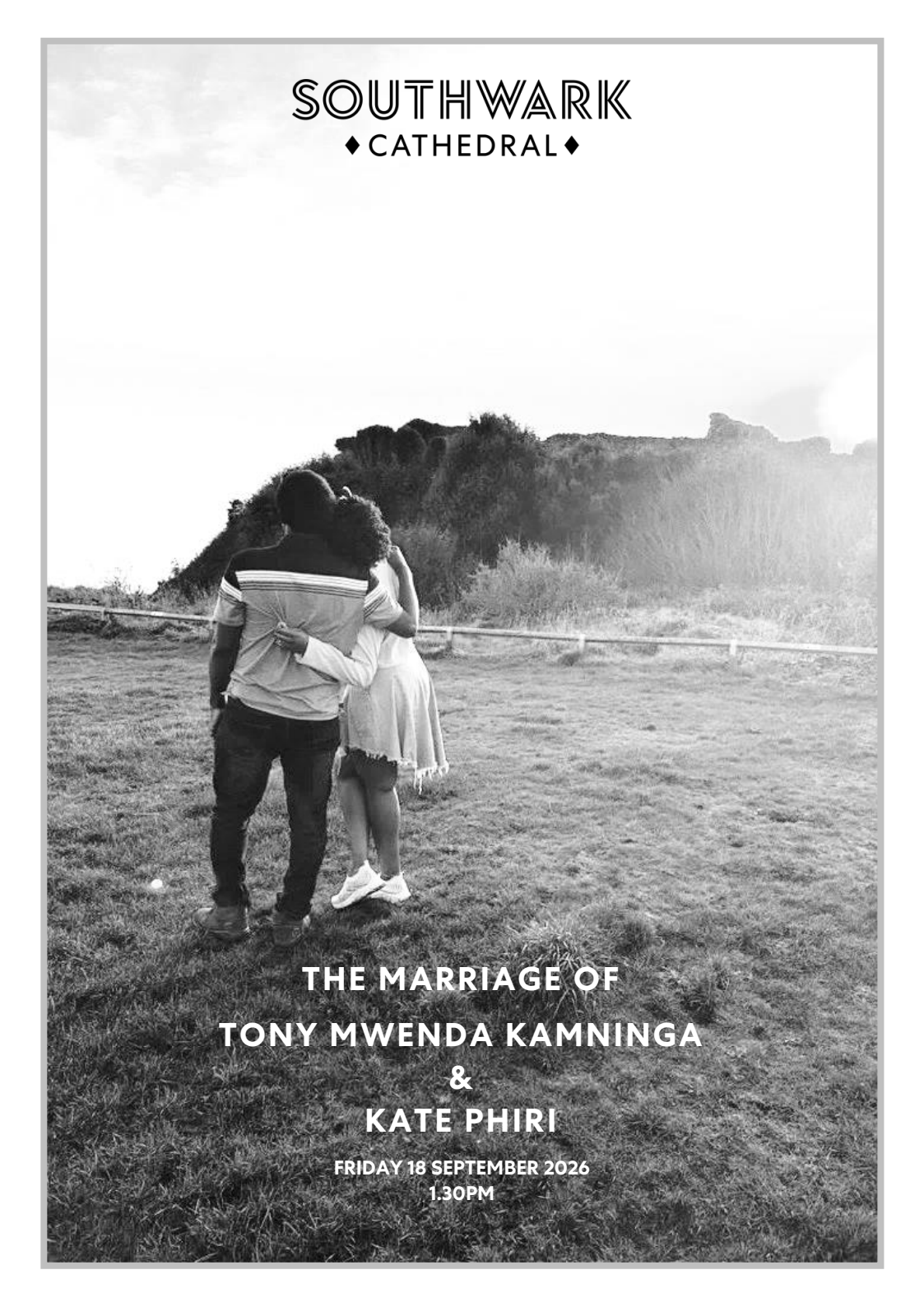




SOUTHWARK
◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

**THE MARRIAGE OF
TONY MWENDA KAMNINGA
&
KATE PHIRI**

**FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2026
1.30PM**

WELCOME TO SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

A MEMBER OF THE



ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please ensure that all electronic devices are switched to silent.

PHOTOGRAPHY

You are welcome to take photographs and videos during the service.

HEARING LOOP

Please switch your device to 'T'.

POSTURE

The instructions in this booklet are not prescriptive. Please sit if that is more appropriate for you.

DONATIONS



There are several donation points in the Cathedral where you can make your donation, or you can simply scan the QR code, or text SOUTHWARK (Amount) to 70085 (one standard rate message is also charged). Thank you very much for your generous support of the Cathedral.

You can also support the Cathedral by buying your books from the ethical online bookseller bookshop.org and designating Southwark Cathedral shop for the 30% of purchase price donation they offer us.

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Jesu, joy of man's desiring • J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Air on the G string • J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Sheep may safely graze • J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand for the entry of the bride.

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC

Coro from Water Music • G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

THE GATHERING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you

All **and also with you.**

The Sub Dean welcomes the congregation and introduces the celebration.

THE HYMN

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

TUNE: SLANE

Traditional Gaelic melody

TEXT:

Jan Struther (1901-1953)

THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

As we prepare to hear God's word
and to celebrate the marriage of Tony and Kate,
we remember our human frailty
and our need for God's help in all that we do.

Silence is kept.

Lord, in our weakness you are our strength.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord, when we stumble, you raise us up.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Lord, when we fail, you give us new life.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

THE ABSOLUTION

May God in his goodness forgive us our sins,
grant us strength in our weakness,
and bring us to eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE PREFACE

In the presence of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
we have come together
to witness the marriage of Tony and Kate,
to pray for God's blessing on them,
to share their joy
and to celebrate their love.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation
through which husband and wife may know the grace of God.
It is given
that as man and woman grow together in love and trust,
they shall be united with one another in heart, body and mind,
as Christ is united with his bride, the Church.

The gift of marriage brings husband and wife together
in the delight and tenderness of sexual union
and joyful commitment to the end of their lives.
It is given as the foundation of family life
in which children are born and nurtured
and in which each member of the family,
in good times and in bad,
may find strength, companionship and comfort,
and grow to maturity in love.

Marriage is a way of life made holy by God,
and blessed by the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
with those celebrating a wedding at Cana in Galilee.
Marriage is a sign of unity and loyalty
which all should uphold and honour.
It enriches society and strengthens community.
No one should enter into it lightly or selfishly
but reverently and responsibly in the sight of almighty God.

Tony and Kate are now to enter this way of life.
They will each give their consent to the other
and make solemn vows,
and in token of this they will each give and receive a ring.
We pray with them that the Holy Spirit will guide
and strengthen them,
that they may fulfil God's purposes
for the whole of their earthly life together.

THE DECLARATIONS

The Sub Dean says to the congregation:

First, I am required to ask anyone present who knows a reason why these persons may not lawfully marry, to declare it now.

The Sub Dean says to the couple:

The vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God,
who is judge of all and knows all the secrets of our hearts;
therefore if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry,
you must declare it now.

The Sub Dean says to the bridegroom:

Tony, will you take Kate to be your wife?
Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her,
and, forsaking all others,
be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

He answers:

I will.

The Sub Dean says to the bride:

Kate, will you take Tony to be your husband?
Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him,
and, forsaking all others,
be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

She answers:

I will.

The Sub Dean says to the congregation:

Will you, the families and friends of Tony and Kate,
support and uphold them in their marriage
now and in the years to come?

All We will.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God our Father,
from the beginning,
you have blessed creation with abundant life.
Pour out your blessings upon Tony and Kate,
that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship,
in holiness and commitment to each other.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

The flower, the sun, the wind and the earth • Q. Malewezi (b. 1979)

Read by **Tony Mwenda Kamninga**

The beauty of a flower lies in its bloom
Only once is this bloom truly beautiful
When the wind the sun and the earth agree
Forming a sacred covenant called a season

The sun illuminates the path to the flower
For the wind to gently whisper to her leaves
The earth holds the flower in a strong embrace
And the flower understands that it is time

Time to blossom and truly become a flower
Completion in the moment she reveals her petals
Putting all her trust in the season
Creation stands still bearing witness to this graceful act

The flower knows only this season
Waking up to the soft caress of the sun
Slow dancing only with the gentle wind
Being held in the comfort of the earth's strong arms

Let the sun remain faithful to her beautiful petals
And the wind whisper sweet nothings as they dance
Let the earth vow to love and to hold the flower
For we know the season by the flower's beautiful bloom

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 5.21-end

Read by **Zione Phiri Mpofu**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Saviour. Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, so as to present the church to himself in splendour, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind—yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish. In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, because we are members of his body. 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church. Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

TUNE: WOODLANDS

Walter Greatedorex (1877-1949)

TEXT:

Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.
God is love;
let us love one another
as God has loved us.

All Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5.1-10

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessèd are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessèd are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessèd are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessèd are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessèd are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessèd are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessèd are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessèd are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Canon Michael Rawson, Sub Dean & Pastor

THE MARRIAGE

THE VOWS

The couple stands before the Sub Dean, who introduces the vows.

Tony and Kate, I now invite you to join hands and make your vows,
in the presence of God and his people.

The bridegroom takes the bride's right hand in his, and says:

I, Tony, take you, Kate,
to be my wife,
to have and to hold
from this 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.
In the presence of God I make this vow.

They loose hands.

The bride takes the bridegroom's right hand in hers, and says:

I, Kate, take you, Tony,
to be my husband,
to have and to hold
from this 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.
In the presence of God I make this vow.

They loose hands.

THE GIVING OF RINGS

The Sub Dean receives the rings, and says:

Heavenly Father, source of everlasting love,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ
and poured into our hearts through your Holy Spirit;
that love which many waters cannot quench,
neither the floods drown;
that love which is patient and kind, enduring all things without end;
by your blessing, let these rings be to Tony and Kate
symbols to remind them of the covenant made this day
through your grace in the love of your Son
and in the power of your Spirit.

All Amen.

The bridegroom places the ring on the fourth finger of the bride's left hand and, holding it there, says:

Kate, I give you this ring
as a sign of our marriage.
With my body I honour you,
all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,
within the love of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

They loose hands and the bride places a ring on the fourth finger of the bridegroom's left hand and, holding it there, says:

Tony, I give you this ring
as a sign of our marriage.
With my body I honour you,
all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,
within the love of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

THE PROCLAMATION

The Sub Dean addresses the people:

In the presence of God, and before this congregation,
Tony and Kate have given their consent
and made their marriage vows to each other.
They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands
and by the giving and receiving of rings.
I therefore proclaim that they are husband and wife.

The Sub Dean joins their right hands together and says:

Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

THE BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

The husband and wife kneel.

Blessèd are you, O Lord our God,
for you have created joy and gladness,
pleasure and delight, love, peace and fellowship.
Pour out the abundance of your blessing
upon Tony and Kate in their new life together.
Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts
and a crown upon their heads.
Bless them in their work and in their companionship;
awake and asleep,
in joy and in sorrow,
in life and in death.
Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that banquet
where your saints feast for ever in your heavenly home.
We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Sub Dean says to the couple:

God the Father,
God the Son,
God the Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve and keep you;
the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace,
that you may please him both in body and soul,
and, living together in faith and love,
may receive the blessings of eternal life.

All Amen.

THE SIGNING OF THE MARRIAGE DOCUMENT

Please be seated as the wedding party sign the marriage document.

THE PRAYERS

Led by **Luseshelo Simwinga Mumba**

Faithful God,
holy and eternal,
source of life and spring of love,
we thank and praise you for bringing Tony and Kate to this day,
and we pray for them.

Lord of life and love:

All **hear our prayer.**

May their marriage be life-giving and life-long,
enriched by your presence and strengthened by your grace;
may they bring comfort and confidence to each other
in faithfulness and trust.

Lord of life and love:

All **hear our prayer.**

May the hospitality of their home
bring refreshment and joy to all around them;
may their love overflow to neighbours in need
and embrace those in distress.

Lord of life and love:

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by **John Paul Mwenda**

May they discern in your word
order and purpose for their lives;
and may the power of your Holy Spirit
lead them in truth and defend them in adversity.

Lord of life and love:

All **hear our prayer.**

May they nurture their family with devotion,
see their children grow in body, mind and spirit
and come at last to the end of their lives
with hearts content and in joyful anticipation of heaven.

Lord of life and love:

All **hear our prayer.**

Father of all,
in Jesus Christ you open to us
the treasures of your kingdom;
guide us by your Holy Spirit
that we may receive your redeeming grace
and reflect the perfect unity of your love,
for you live and reign,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

To crown all things there must be love.
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
 and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

During the Hymn, bread and wine are presented at the Altar.

THE HYMN

That human life might richer be
That children may be named and known,
That love finds its own sanctuary,
That those in love stay not alone.

Refrain

*Praise, praise the Maker, Spirit, Son,
Blessing this marriage now begun.*

As two we love are wed this day
And we stand witness to their vow,
We call on God, the Trinity,
To sanctify their pledges now.

Refrain

Parents and families they leave,
Their own new family to make;
And, sharing what their pasts have taught,
They shape it for the future's sake.

Refrain

This is as God meant it to be,
That man and woman should be one
And live in love and love through life,
As Christ on earth has taught and done.

Refrain

Then, bless the bridegroom, bless the bride,
The dreams they dream, the hopes they share;
And thank the Lord whose love inspires
Their joy, their lips and ours declare.

Refrain

TUNE: SUSSEX CAROL

Traditional English

TEXT:

John Bell (b. 1949)
& Graham Maule (1958-2019)

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- The Lord be with you
All and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

All glory, honour, thanks and praise
be given to you, creator of heaven and earth.
When you made us in your image,
creating us male and female,
you gave us the gift of marriage.
When sin marred that image
you healed our brokenness,
giving your Son to die for us.
Therefore we raise our voices,
with all who have served you in every age,
to proclaim the glory of your name:

The Choir sings:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of Sabaoth.
Heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

The President continues:

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All Dying you destroyed our death,
 rising you restored our life:
 Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

Please pray in whichever language you feel most comfortable.

All	Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.	Atate wathu... Notre Père... 天におられる私たちの父よ... Nna anyị... Fader vår... Pai nosso... हे हमारे स्वर्गबासी पिता... Padre nuestro... 我們在天上的父... ОТче наш... 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지... Πάτερ ἡμῶν... اے ہمارے باپ
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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessèd are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Please be seated. If you wish to receive Holy Communion or a blessing, please follow the directions of the Stewards. Please do not dip the host into the chalice. If you would like to receive a blessing, please bow your head.

Members of all Christian churches are welcome to receive Communion. Whatever your faith tradition or background, you are most welcome to draw near for a blessing.

During the distribution of Communion, the Choir sings:

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Followed by:

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM

A Gaelic Blessing • John Rutter (b. 1945)

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ,
of Christ the light of the world to you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

THE COMMUNION 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.

TUNE: BUNESSAN
Old Gaelic melody

TEXT:
Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Gracious God,
may Tony and Kate, who have been bound together
in these holy mysteries,
become one in body and soul.
May they live in faithfulness and peace
and obtain those eternal joys
prepared for all who love you;
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Please stand.

The Lord bless you and keep you:

All Amen.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you:

All Amen.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace:

All Amen.

The Lord God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
the holy and undivided Trinity,
guard you, save you,
and bring you to that heavenly city,
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Hornpipe from Water Music • G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

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SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

making space for love
with heart, mind, and soul

It is good to welcome you to Southwark Cathedral. Set on the south bank of the River Thames, in one of the most vibrant and diverse communities in London, this building has been a constant witness in a place of change.

The first church was built on this site around the year 606. First a convent, then a monastery, it became in 1106 the Augustinian Priory of St Mary Overie ('over-the-river'). With Westminster Abbey and St Bartholomew the Great in Smithfield, it is one of the three remaining great monastic churches of London. At the Reformation, the Priory became a parish church, and it remains so for the people of Bankside. In 1905, as south London was rapidly expanding, the church was consecrated as the Cathedral for the new Diocese of Southwark.

The Cathedral has a momentous and significant history and has had links with many famous and influential characters including St Thomas Becket, Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare and Charles Dickens. It has also been a Cathedral for those who feel on the edges of faith or society, our welcome reaching out to all people in their beautiful God-given diversity.

Here, our Christian faith is captured in our vision to 'make space for love: with heart, mind, and soul'. Faith requires our hearts to stand up for social justice, upholding integrity and kindness, and supporting the vulnerable and oppressed. It challenges our thinking, inviting our minds to be enquiring, honest, and generous. Faith also seeks to deepen our inner lives, with the arts and creativity, by sharing in the life of our community, and by learning the arts of prayer and attention. In Jesus Christ we see the human face of God, and our faith in him is our joy and our life.

We really hope you enjoy being here with us today and that we will see you again very soon.

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