

The Cotteridge Church

Epiphany 2 Sunday 16th January



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.

Bible Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

Collect for Epiphany 2

God our Father,
in love you sent your Son
that the world may have life:
lead us to seek him among the outcast
and to find him in those in need,
for Jesus Christ's sake.
Amen

Epiphany 2

In Greek Mythology the lovely Pandora was sent by Zeus to be the bride of Epimetheus. Pandora was very curious which nearly proved to be her undoing. One day Mercury, the messenger, sent a box to the young couple. It was meant for them to enjoy, but under no circumstances were they to open it. Told that she could not do it, it became the thing that she desired to do the most. So one day she pried it open and peeked inside. Suddenly out flew swarms of insects that began attacking them. Both lovers were stung with the poison of suspicion, hatred, fear and malice. Now the once happy couple began to argue. Epimetheus became bitter and Pandora wept with a broken heart. But in the midst of the quarrelling, they heard a tiny voice cry out: Let me out, to sooth your pain. Fearfully they opened the box again, and this time a beautiful butterfly flew out. It touched the couple and miraculously their pain was healed and they were happy again. The butterfly we are told was hope. It is hope that sustains us; it is hope that soothes our pain.