

To Tim & Patricia, on their wedding day - 25/7/97

STRENGTH AND STAY

O perfect Love

O Strength and Stay

Dorothy F. Gurney (1858 - 1932) /

J.B. Dykes (1823 - 1876),

Latin, translated by John Ellerton and F.J.A. Hort

last verse arrangement by Paul Walton

7

12

1. O perfect Love, all human thought transcending,
Lowly we kneel in prayer before thy throne,
That theirs may be the love that knows no ending
Whom thou for evermore dost join in one. *AMR variants* which knows no ending
2. O perfect Life, be thou their full assurance
Of tender charity and steadfast faith,
Of patient hope, and quiet brave endurance,
With childlike trust that fears nor pain nor death.
3. Grant them the joy that brightens earthly sorrow,
Grant them the peace which calms all earthly strife;
And to life's day the glorious unknown morrow
That dawns upon eternal love and life. which brightens earthly sorrow

1. O Strength and Stay upholding all creation,
Who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
Yet day by day the light in due gradation
From hour to hour through all its changes guide;
2. Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
An eve untouched by shadows of decay,
The brightness of a holy death-bed blending
With dawning glories of th'eternal day.
3. Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living
Now and to endless ages art adored.

Last verse arrangement

Harmony (unaccompanied ad lib)

mp *mf*

Grant them the joy that brightens earth-ly sor - row, Grant them the peace which
Hear us, O Fa - ther, gra-cious and for - giv - ing, Through Je - sus Christ thy

mp *mf*

Descant

7 *f*

calms all earth - ly strife; Who with the Ho - ly Ghost, by all things -
co - e - ter - nal Word, **Tune**

And to life's day the glo - rious un - known
Who with the Ho - ly Ghost, by all things

mf *f*

mor - row - - - That dawns up - on e - ter - nal love and life.
liv - ing - - - ing, Now and to end - less a - ges art a - dored.

mor - row That dawns up - on e - ter - nal love and life.
liv - ing Now and to end - less a - ges art a - dored.

12 *ff*