

PARISH OF WHITTON

MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 3rd January 2021, 11.30am

Phone in on: 020 3481 5240 or 020 808 06591

Or join us via the internet using ZOOM if you are able:

Meeting ID; 9483407 2630 password: 343860

We are made welcome:

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We pray together

Lord, as we come to worship you today:

We thank you for your generous love for your world.

We thank you for coming to bring us new life and to teach us how to live.

Help us to love you and each other,

and help us to learn together today how we can show our love for you

in the way we respond to your call. Amen

We set the scene for the service and we say a special prayer for today

Creator of the heavens,

who led the Magi by a star

to worship the Christ-child:

guide and sustain us,

that we may find our journey's end

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

We listen to the words of a hymn

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;

Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.

Snow had fallen, snow on snow,

Snow on snow;

In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain,
 Heaven and earth shall flee away
 When He comes to reign.

In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
 The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim worship night and day,
 A breastful of milk and a manger full of hay;
 Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
 The ox and ass and camel which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
 Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air.
 But His mother only, In her maiden bliss,
 Worshipped the Belovèd with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
 If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
 Yet what I can I give Him— give my heart.

We read from the Bible (see the pew sheet for the full text)

Isaiah 60:1-6 – The Glory of Zion

Ephesians 3:1-12 – Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles

Matthew 2:1-12 – The Visit of the Magi

We think about the readings

We say sorry to God as we pray for the world, and for ourselves:

Our prayers of intercession incorporate an expression of our shortcomings for which we seek God's forgiveness -

Lord, if I had time, I would want to share more of it with You.

Lord, if I had time, I would use it to listen to those who are hurting.

Lord, if I had time, I would use it to care for the poor.

Lord, if I had time, I would use it to care for your world.

Lord, if I had time, I would use it to love my neighbour as myself.

We are forgiven

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins
 and restore us in his image, to the praise and glory of his name,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We join to say the church's family prayer

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, so in faith and trust we pray...

**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 forever. Amen.**

We affirm our shared faith in God

Let us affirm our common faith in God.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed mankind?

I believe and trust in him

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We use the words of hymn to draw together our thoughts and prayers

Light of the world you stepped down into darkness

Opened my eyes, let me see beauty that made this heart adore you

Hope of a life spent with you

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that you're my God

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy

Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days, so highly exalted

Glorious in heaven above

Humbly you came to the earth you created

All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down [.....]
 I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down [.....]

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We offer our lives and our gifts to God

**Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
 may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
 discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
 the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

We are blessed and sent out into the world

The Christ child has come, so we can begin again.
 The Prince of Peace is within us – we can journey in confidence.
 The Son of God has become like us, that we may be made like him.
 Jesus is his name and he now sends us out
 to bear his name and to share his love.

So let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ, Amen

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