

# PARISH OF WHITTON

## Internet Zoom & Telephone Service

14th April 2024 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

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

Or link to

<https://zoom.us/j/94834072630?pwd=VVdVdmFESjJsbFlxcWVMd0VwZXIoUT09>

*Don't be daft - how can you be born again!*

*It would have been a joyous birth, to be born again with the Spirit's mirth,  
But there was no room in the busy mind; there was no Womb for the Wind  
Russell H. Ritchey*

Let us remember that this is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Yes – let's remember that this is the day we have got to live and think again.  
But - Do we? Should we? maybe tomorrow....*

*Let us see how the ancients dealt with this by looking at the Psalm of the day.*

*Psalm 4.*

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!'

You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

Lord, as we come to worship you today:

We thank you for bringing us together, we may each and every one of us be dependent on things that take our vision and love away from you God.

Teach us to refocus, if it means we start again, let's do that.

Help us to support one another in our journey to be with Jesus Christ.

A journey where we 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 listen to the words of a song:**

Ye children of men, attend to the word, So solemnly uttered by Jesus the Lord;  
And let not this message to you be in vain, "***Ye must be born again.***"

O ye who would enter that glorious rest, And sing with the ransomed the song of the blest;  
The life everlasting if ye would obtain, "***Ye must be born again.***"

A dear one in heaven thy heart yearns to see, At the beautiful gate may be watching for thee;

Then list to the note of this solemn refrain, "***Ye must be born again.***"

**Author: William T. Sleeper**

**We ask God to soften our hearts for the peace to be with us for the holy spirit of God to dwell in us**

*We have a moment of silence*

In the presence of the God and Father of us all, we meet together to give thanks for the spiritual unity of your love, which is already ours as members of the Body of Christ.

Let us acknowledge our sin, that this unity may, by God's grace, become a visible unity, so that his Church in every place may demonstrate the healing power of the words in the Holy Bible, and be an instrument of his peace in the life of the world.

*Let us say together:*

**Most merciful God, soften our hearts and let us confess how we have turned away from you and against one another, in thought, and word, and deed.**

**We are truly sorry for our lack of faithfulness, and our compassion in Godly understanding and of Godly love.**

**We repent of our yielding to temptations.**

**Some of us need help to remove the chains where our free will is stopped by addiction**

**Release those trapped in addiction**

**Renew us,**

**that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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 read from the Bible:**

**1 John 3 – 1-7**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

**About the reading**

**Let us say together the church's family prayer:**

Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Give us each day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial  
**Amen.**

**Let us now pray for the world and our community:**

**We use the words of hymn in response to today's service :**

1 Dearest Jesus, we are here, gladly your command obeying;  
with this child we now draw near in response to your own saying  
that to you it shall be given as a child and heir of heaven.

2 Lord, your Word is clear and plain, and we would obey it duly:  
"He who is not born again, heart and life renewing truly,  
born of water and the Spirit, can my kingdom not inherit."

3 Therefore we have come to you, in our arms this infant bearing.  
Shine your heav'nly light anew - let this child, your mercy sharing,  
in your arms be shielded ever, yours on earth and yours forever.

4 Gracious Head, your member own; Shepherd, take your lamb and feed it;  
Prince of Peace, make here your throne; Way of life, to heaven lead it.  
Precious Vine, let nothing sever from your side this branch forever.

5 Now into your heart we pour prayers that from our hearts proceeded.  
Our petitions heav'nward soar; may our warm desires be heeded!  
Write the name we now have given; write it in the book of heaven!

**Author: Benjamin Schmolck**

**We are blessed and sent out into the world:**

**May God's blessing be upon you now;  
May you know of his great love for you.  
May God's blessing be upon you now,  
Right where you are.**

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

*Common Worship, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and published by Church House Publishing.*

**An opportunity for online OFFERTORY collection!**



Scan the code here. This will take you to the Whitton PCC's CAFDonate page, where you can make a donation and include Gift Aid if eligible.

Thank you very much indeed, on behalf of the Parish of Whitton, for your support.  
*All donations received will be shared equally between the churches in the Parish (St Michael's Aldbourne, St Nicholas' Baydon, St Mary's Chilton, All Saints Froxfield, & Holy Cross Ramsbury with St Michael's Axford). If you wish to donate specifically to your local church, please see the relevant page on our website.*