

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

Prayers including the Collect of the day

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

Gracious God, you have given us much today;
grant us also a thankful spirit.
Into your hands we commend ourselves and those we love.
Stay with us, and when we take our rest
renew us for the service of your Son Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Blessing (if a priest is present)

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing ...

The Grace (if lay led)

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

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The Parish of Whitton

An Evening Service of the Word

Greeting and opening responses

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.
The Lord bless you.

O Lord, we call to you: come to us quickly.

Hear us when we cry to you.

Let our prayers rise up before you like incense.

Let our lifted hands be like an evening sacrifice.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Opening prayer

Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power
to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.
As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith,
we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Absolution

May the God of love bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Reading

Concluding with

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Magnificat (metrical version)

**With Mary let my soul rejoice,
And praise God's holy name –
His saving love from first to last,
From age to age the same!**

**How strong his arm, how great his power!
The proud he will disown;
The meek and humble he exalts
To share his glorious throne.**

**The rich our God will send away
And feed the hungry poor
The arms of love remain outstretched
At mercy's open door.**

**So shall God's promise be fulfilled,
To Israel firmly made:
A child is born, a Son is given
Whose crown will never fade.**

Bible Reading

Concluding with

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis (metrical version)

**Lord, now let your servant
Go his way in peace.
Your great love has brought me
Joy that will not cease:**

**For my eyes have seen him
Promised from of old,
Saviour of all people,
Shepherd of one fold.**

**Light of revelation
To the gentiles shown,
Light of Israel's glory
To the world made known.**

**All glory to the Father, Son
And Spirit now proclaim;
With Mary let the world rejoice
And praise God's holy name!**

Reflection

Affirmation of faith

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**