



# THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, PERSHORE

Sunday, 13 May, 2018

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNG EUCHARIST

*Junior Church*

## WEEKLY SERVICE SHEET & BULLETIN

*A very warm welcome to our services today.  
Please join us after the 1030 service for refreshments.*

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

A&M 612

*(Guiting Power)*

1. Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:  
*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name.*
2. Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:
3. Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
victim crucified!  
death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:
4. Priestly king, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:
5. So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:

[Michael Saward b. 1932]

### THE COLLECT

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### FIRST READING

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

*A reading from the The Acts of the Apostles*

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people). He said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus – for he was numbered among us and was

allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.’ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, ‘Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.’ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 John 5:9-13

*A reading from the First Letter of John*

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 232

*(St Magnus)*

1. The head that once was crowned with thorns  
is crowned with glory now:  
a royal diadem adorns  
the mighty victor’s brow.
2. The highest place that heaven affords  
is his, is his by right,  
the King of kings, and Lord of lords,  
and heaven’s eternal Light;
3. The joy of all who dwell above,  
the joy of all below,  
to whom he manifests his love,  
and grants his name to know.
4. To them the cross, with all its shame,  
with all its grace, is given:  
their name an everlasting name,  
their joy the joy of heaven.
5. They suffer with their Lord below,  
they reign with him above;  
their profit and their joy to know  
the mystery of his love.
6. The cross he bore is life and health,  
though shame and death to him;  
his people’s hope, his people’s wealth,  
their everlasting theme.

[Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855]

THE GOSPEL

John 17:6-19

Alleluia, alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: 'Father, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN

A&M 224

(*Christchurch*)

1. Ascended Christ, who gained  
the glory that we sing,  
anointed and ordained  
our prophet, priest, and king:  
by many tongues  
the church displays  
your power and praise  
in all her songs.

2. No titles, thrones, or powers  
can ever rival yours;  
no passing mood of ours  
can turn aside your laws:  
you reign above  
each other name  
of worth or fame,  
the Lord of love.

3. Now from the Father's side  
you make your people new;  
since for our sins you died  
our lives belong to you:  
from our distress  
you set us free  
for purity  
and holiness.

4. You call us to belong  
within one body here;  
in weakness we are strong  
and all your gifts we share:  
in you alone  
we are complete  
and at your feet  
with joy bow down.

(*cont'd*)

5. All strength is in your hand,  
all power to you is given;  
all wisdom to command  
in earth and hell and heaven:  
beyond all words  
creation sings  
the King of kings  
and Lord of lords.

[Christopher Idle b.1938]

COMMUNION MOTET: Cantate Domino arr: Giuseppe Pitoni

COMMUNION HYMN A&M 428 (*Aberystwyth*)

1. Body broken for our good,  
and that body's precious blood:  
we receive them to our shame,  
who dishonour Jesus' name.  
Every day more blood is shed;  
flesh is broken, left for dead.  
Where earth's children bleed and die,  
it is Christ we crucify.
2. In communion with this Lord,  
faith, hope, love are all restored;  
here is wealth beyond compare,  
wealth for all the world to share.  
He reclaims our every breath:  
all our life and even death  
cannot be too great a price,  
to complete his sacrifice.
3. Time, with energy and health,  
talent, poverty or wealth:  
all are yours, Lord, taken up  
in the sign of bread and cup.  
Though we may be broken too,  
and our lives poured out for you,  
make of us the living sign  
of your love in bread and wine.

[Alan Gaunt b.1935]

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FINAL HYMN A&M 453 (*St Helen*)

1. Lord, enthroned in heav'nly splendor,  
first-begotten from the dead,  
Thou alone, our strong Defender,  
liftest up Thy people's head.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Jesus, true and living Bread!
2. Here our humblest homage pay we,  
Here in loving reverence bow;  
Here for faith's discernment pray we,  
Lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou art here, we ask not how.

3. Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
As of old in Bethlehem,  
Here as there thine angels hail thee,  
Branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
We in worship join with them.

4. Paschal Lamb, Your offering, finished  
Once for all when thou wast slain,  
In its fullness undiminished  
Shall forevermore remain.  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Cleansing souls from every stain.

5. Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock, with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died.  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Risen, ascended, glorified!

[George Hugh Bourne, 1840-1925]

*PLEASE TAKE THIS SERVICE SHEET & PEW BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU.*

PLEASE LEAVE THE SERVICE BOOKLET WHEN YOU LEAVE.

SUNDAY 13th MAY 2018.

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY  
Priest-in-Charge: The Revd Claire Lording  
Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Wardens: Mr Bill Newman (01386 640497) Mrs Suzanne Clarke (01386 553293)  
Weekday Verger: Mr Robin Hancox (01386 553779)

The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham  
Alveston House, 11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB (01386 552071)  
The Office is open for visitors on Monday - Friday between 1100 & 1300  
Email: office@pershoreabbey.org.uk Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

*Notices for next Bulletin no later than Thursday at 12:00 noon please.*

## NOTICES AND EVENTS

FAIRER SHARE: As part of the process by which the diocese allocates Parish Share everyone who is a regular member of the church is being asked to complete a confidential survey as to what their income is. This is a repeat of a process that some of you will remember from three years ago. PLEASE COLLECT YOUR ENVELOPE FROM THE BACK OF CHURCH BEFORE YOU LEAVE TODAY. This contains a letter explaining the process and a couple of forms that need to be completed. Boxes for your completed forms will be at the back of church. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CHURCH WITHOUT YOUR ENVELOPE. If you think you are missing an envelope please let one of those who are helping with distribution know. Thank you. *Claire*

MONDAY 28 MAY PERSHORE CARNIVAL 50th ANNIVERSARY - THE ABBEY'S WALKING FLOAT: Once again we are going to be entering a walking float into the Carnival procession. Suzanne is organising everything and is really keen for as many people, of all ages, from the Abbey to be involved as possible. This year is the 50th golden anniversary and we are using "Joseph and his Technicolor Dream Coat" as our theme. Please be planning your costume to come dressed as one of Joseph's brothers or a wife or anything to do with the Joseph story. Please speak to Suzanne Clarke if you would like to be involved, everyone welcome. (suzclarke@btinternet.com or 01386 553293)

PERSHORE CARNIVAL REFRESHMENTS IN ST ANDREW'S CENTRE We would welcome as many volunteers as possible to help to serve refreshments in St Andrew's for a two hour slot. We would also be grateful for any cakes, or, if you prefer not to bake a donation would be much appreciated. Sign in sheets are available at the back of the Abbey after morning service of contact Olive Hall on 554752 or Julie Newman 640497. Thank you.

HOUSE GROUPS: Sign up sheets are now at the back of the Abbey for the next round of house groups. Please note the different start dates. This time we will be looking at the creeds in different ways. More details are on the sign up sheets. If you have any questions about the house groups please don't hesitate to get in touch. Thank you. *Claire*

BIRLINGHAM ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATION, FUN DAY & FETE SATURDAY 19 MAY: All proceeds to St James' Church - the days starts at the Cricket Club at 1100 with full screening of the royal wedding, tea and scones and a toast to the happy couple. Village fete and Family Day from 14:00, traditional stalls, cakes, produce, games and children's activities. Full screening of the FA cup final from 17:00 onwards. (Donations of cakes appreciated for the cake stall!) Everyone welcome. To offer help or for enquires contact Paula Aston 01386-751425

FRIENDS OF PERSHORE ABBEY 2018 MEMORIAL LECTURE: The Friends of Pershore Abbey 2018 Memorial Lecture will be held on Friday June 1st in the Abbey. A drinks reception will commence at 18:30 and the lecture will start at 19:15. This year's lecture will be delivered by Harriett Baldwin MP Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Department for International Development. Her subject is "Africa's Future – Trade not Aid?" ALL ARE WELCOME. A suggested donation of £15 towards the work of the Friends of Pershore Abbey is suggested. This can be paid in advance by contacting Erica Norton on 550 617 or Michael Hodges on 5524 17 or on the evening upon arrival.

DONKEY PAGEANT at the Abbey on Sunday 10 June at 1500 to include a Blessing of Pets Service, Canon Bowden will be returning with his donkeys to tell the story of Noah. Bring your own pets or a cuddly toy. *Sara Speed*

CAN YOU LEAD OUR PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP? Every Friday between 09:30 and 11:30, during school term time, we run a Parent and Toddler group in St Andrew's Centre. Parents (and sometimes other family members) and their babies and pre-school toddlers join in playing with our toys and doing craft activities. The aim is to provide a friendly, open atmosphere where parents can meet and talk to each other as well as find something to occupy the children, who often enjoy playing with their new friends. We see this as an important part of our Mission to families at a time when they can sometimes feel isolated and stressed. Jean Pritchard has been successfully running the group for some years but is standing down this summer. So we need someone to help us from September. It would obviously be good if we could identify someone to overlap with Jean and learn the ropes. So please think about whether you could help. We have some volunteers who help with setting up and others providing tea and biscuits so you will not be on your own. Please talk to Jean, Claire or me if you can help in this really important area. *Peter Stansbie*.

DO YOU ENJOY GARDENING: If so would you like to look after our small garden area behind St Andrews Centre. It needs someone to love it and care for it. Pershore College students are looking at new designs for it but in the meantime it needs someone who loves gardening to care for it. If you would like to help please speak to Robin Hancox, Claire or me. *Peter Stansbie*.

"THY KINGDOM COME": We are again hosting a Prayer Pilgrimage that is being organised for the whole deanery made up of prayer stations from every benefice. Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost (10-20 May) for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

AT THE CLOSE OF "THY KINGDOM COME" we are invited to join a special service at Worcester Cathedral at 18:30 on Pentecost Sunday, 20 May. Please put this date in your diary and think about supporting this event. Gather with Christians of all denominations from across Worcestershire, to be inspired at a Pentecost service at which we will pray for more people to come to know Jesus. *Claire*

GIFTS FOR TANZANIA: We are hoping to set up a Benefice Link with the parish of St John's Kihonda in the Diocese of Morogoro. So that we can know more about the parish and can plan to take out a group from our benefice I shall be visiting Kihonda in June. I would like to take some small gifts with me and would love your help! Any donations of ladies scarves, colourful tea towels with pictures on, children's crayons, pencils, bubbles and nice biros can be left at the Benefice Office (between 1100 and 1300) or at the back of the Abbey by 15 June. Many thanks in advance for your generosity. *Claire*

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

(A) Abbey, (B) Birlingham, (P) Pinvin, (W) Wick,  
(St A) St Andrew's, (V) New Vicarage, (CTIP) Churches Together in Pershore

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES TAKE PLACE EVERY MONDAY TO SATURDAY IN THE ABBEY

08:00 Silent Prayer                      08:30 Matins and Eucharist                      17:00 Evening Prayer

*Everyone is very welcome to attend these services*

SUNDAY 13 MAY 2018 - EASTER 7

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK IN THE ABBEY

08:00 Eucharist (A)  
10:30 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (A)  
17:00 Wholeness and Healing (A)  
17:30 Youth Group with Suzanne Clarke (St A)

Monday 14 May

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK (A)

09:15 Musical Explorers (St A)

18:30 Weight Watchers (St A)

19:30 Bells (St A)

Tuesday 15 May

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK (A)

09:30 Bells (St A)

10:00 Meditation Group (Holy Redeemer Church)

11:00 CTIP Food Bank (St A)

12:00 Monk's Day (A)

19:30 Abbey Women's Fellowship AGM (St A)

Wednesday 16 May

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK (A)

11:30 Lunch Club - Enquiries 554299 (St A)

20:00 Vale Harmony (St A)

Thursday 17 May

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK (A)

09:15 Weight Watchers

09:30 Vicar & Wardens' Meeting (St A Up)

12:00 Claviorganum visit (A)

13:30 Bells (A)

14:30 Meeting in Vicar's Vestry (A)

15:30 Bells (St A)

Friday 18 May

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK (A)

09:30 Parent and Toddlers (St A)

11:00 Eucharist (A)

13:00 CTIP Food Bank (St A)

18:00 Choir Practice (A)

18:30 Private Booking (St A)

19:30 Bells (St A)

Saturday 19 May

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK (A)

09:30 Marriage Preparation Course (St A)

11:00 Birlingham Fun Day & Fete (B)

Sunday 20 May

14:30 Pianoscapes (St A)

SUNDAY 20 MAY 2018 - PENTECOST

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER WALK

08:00 Eucharist (A)

10:30 All Age Sung Eucharist with Laying on of Hands (A)  
and Junior Church

18:30 Pentecost Sunday service at Worcester Cathedral