



THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, PERSHORE

Sunday, 15 July, 2018

The Seventh Sunday of Trinity

ALL AGE EUCHARIST with Junior Church

WEEKLY SERVICE SHEET & BULLETIN

*A very warm welcome to our services today, during which
there will be laying on of hands.
Please join us for refreshments after the 1030 service.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

A&M 545

(Bunessan)

Morning has broken like the first morning;
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

[Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965]

THE COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE READING

Amos 7:7-15

A reading from the Book of Amos

I had a vision from the Sovereign Lord. In it I saw him create a swarm of locusts just after the king's share of the hay had been cut and the grass was starting to grow again. In my vision I saw the locusts eat up every green thing in the land, and then I said, "Sovereign Lord, forgive your people! How can they survive? They are so small and weak!" The Lord changed his mind and said, "What you saw will not take place."

I had another vision from the Sovereign Lord. In it I saw him preparing to punish his people with fire. The fire burnt up the great ocean under the earth and started to burn up the land. Then I said, "Stop, O Sovereign Lord! How can your people survive?"

They are so small and weak!" The Lord changed his mind again and said, "This will not take place either."

I had another vision from the Lord. In it I saw him standing beside a wall that had been built with the use of a plumb line, and there was a plumb line in his hand. He asked me, "Amos, what do you see?" "A plumb line," I answered. Then he said, "I am using it to show that my people are like a wall that is out of line. I will not change my mind again about punishing them. The places where Isaac's descendants worship will be destroyed. The holy places of Israel will be left in ruins. I will bring the dynasty of King Jeroboam to an end."

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, then sent a report to King Jeroboam of Israel: "Amos is plotting against you among the people. His speeches will destroy the country. This is what he says: 'Jeroboam will die in battle, and the people of Israel will be taken away from their land into exile.'" Amaziah then said to Amos, "That's enough, prophet! Go on back to Judah and do your preaching there. Let them pay you for it. Don't prophesy here at Bethel any more. This is the king's place of worship, the national temple." Amos answered, "I am not the kind of prophet who prophesies for pay. I am a herdsman, and I take care of fig trees. But the Lord took me from my work as a shepherd and ordered me to come and prophesy to his people Israel."

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 818

(To God be the glory)

To God be the glory! great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

*O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!

THE GOSPEL

Mark 6:14-29

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia

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

Now King Herod heard about all this, because Jesus' reputation had spread everywhere. Some people were saying, "John the Baptist has come back to life! That is why he has this power to perform miracles." Others, however, said, "He is Elijah." Others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

When Herod heard it, he said, "He is John the Baptist! I had his head cut off, but he has come back to life!" Herod himself had ordered John's arrest, and he had him tied up and put in prison. Herod did this because of Herodias, whom he had married, even though she was the wife of his brother Philip. John the Baptist kept telling Herod, "It isn't right for you to marry your brother's wife!"

So Herodias held a grudge against John and wanted to kill him, but she could not because of Herod. Herod was afraid of John because he knew that John was a good and holy man, and so he kept him safe. He liked to listen to him, even though he became greatly disturbed every time he heard him.

Finally Herodias got her chance. It was on Herod's birthday, when he gave a feast for all the top government officials, the military chiefs, and the leading citizens of Galilee. The daughter of Herodias came in and danced, and pleased Herod and his guests. So the king said to the girl, "What would you like to have? I will give you anything you want." With many vows he said to her, "I swear that I will give you anything you ask for, even as much as half my kingdom!"

So the girl went out and asked her mother, "What shall I ask for?" "The head of John the Baptist," she answered. The girl hurried back at once to the king and demanded, "I want you to give me here and now the head of John the Baptist on a plate!" This made the king very sad, but he could not refuse her because of the vows he had made in front of all his guests. So he sent off a guard at once with orders to bring John's head. The guard left, went to the prison, and cut John's head off; then he brought it on a plate and gave it to the girl, who gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard about this, they came and got his body, and buried it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN

A&M 283

(Regent Square)

1. Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
might and majesty divine!
He who framed the starry heavens
knows and names them as they shine.
2. Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
Wounded souls his comfort know;
those who fear him find his mercies,
peace for pain and joy for woe;
humble hearts are high exalted,
human pride and power laid low.

Cont.

3. Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
spring to melt the snows of winter
till the waters flow again;
grass upon the mountain pastures,
golden valleys thick with grain.

4. Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days;
love his laws, declare his judgements,
walk in all his words and ways;
he the Lord and we his children:
praise the Lord, all people, praise!

[Timothy Dudley-Smith, b.1926]

CHOIR ANTHEM

A Gaelic Blessing - *John Rutter*

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 454

(*Cresswell*)

1. Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again;
love, only love, is his way

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

2. Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love, only love, is his name.

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

3. Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another; I have loved you.'
Love, only love, is his law.

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

4. Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one;
love, only love, is his word.

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

[Luke Connaughton, 1917-1979]

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

FINAL HYMN

A&M 160

1. Make way, make way for Christ the King
in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.

*Make way! Make way for the King of kings!
Make way! Make way and let his kingdom in!*

2. He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

3. Those who walk with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
With laughter, joy, and royal crown
he'll beautify.

4. We call you now to worship Him
as Lord of all
To have no other gods but him:
their thrones must fall.

[Graham Kendrick, b. 1950]

As a Kingdom People we are a church that seeks to:

- Worship God
- Welcome All
- Reach out to the world

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd Claire Lording
Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Wardens: Mr Bill Newman (01386 640497) Mrs Suzanne Clarke (01386 553293)

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

All those who are celebrating their wedding within the Pershore Benefice, those who are being baptised, those who are in need and those who have recently died.

We also pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs today or in the coming week.

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NOTICES AND EVENTS

MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM LYNNE: I would like to thank everyone for the many cards, messages, phone calls and, in this modern age, emails and texts, I have received over the last few weeks. These messages have been a great support to me, and to my family, and the way in which the church community has come together and gathered around us during this time has given both strength and comfort. My grateful thanks to you all. *Lynne Raymer*

PERSHORE ABBEY SOUND SYSTEM: Our sound system suffered a significant component failure during a concert last weekend. We worked hard late into the Saturday night to have a temporary solution in place for the Sunday - this proved to be only partially successful. Further improvements have been made with equipment on loan from Midsummer Brass but we cannot match the coverage and quality of our usual installation. We are working hard to arrange a permanent repair and ask for your patience until this can be achieved.

We would like to apologise for the problems that you have experienced over the last week; we are particularly aware that hearing aid users who need a working loop to be able to participate in our worship have been badly affected.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE COURSE 2018/2019: This course, which begins in late September/early October depending on which venue you choose, will help you learn more about Scripture and the life of a Christian disciple. This course relates your Christian faith to your life and community. It will build you up and encourage you in your faith as you share together in a group. The cost of the course is £30. No academic qualifications are required - just enthusiasm and a willingness to commit to attending the course for 30 sessions over three terms. Jayne Parker recently completed this course and enjoyed every session - do speak to her if you want to know more! Application forms are available from me and the deadline for applying is 31st July. *Claire*

"I have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Bishop's Certificate this year. It has been an amazing opportunity to discover more about my faith, the Church and the Bible as well as gain new friendships. We have discussed topics such as baptism and the Eucharist. We have learnt about the Old Testament prophets, the Psalms, and the letter to the Ephesians. If you have any questions or would like to know more, please do ask." *Jayne*

SUNDAY 29 JULY BENEFICE SERVICE: We're on the move again - on Sunday 29 July the 1030 service will be held at St James' Church, Birlingham, for the whole benefice. Please do come along and join us. The 0800 service will take place in the Abbey as normal.

A PLEA FOR HELPERS TO CLEAN THE BRASS IN THE ABBEY: Unfortunately our small team of six is depleted through illness and encroaching disability and we need some more help. At the moment, we work in pairs, with each pair doing a maximum of cleaning four times a year, at any time in their allocated month. If you could spare one hour, once every 3 months, you would be very welcome. Please contact Wendy Perks after the service.

"GOOD MORNING": I am sure that you received this greeting as you entered Church and were handed the service and pew bulletin. Our team of greeters and sidespeople are an invaluable part of our worship at 10:30 every Sunday. It seems inconceivable that they may not be here, but due to some of our team leaving the town we do need some extra people. If you feel you can help please talk to our churchwardens or to me for information. *John Tyldesley, Rota co-ordinator.*

TEDDY BEARS WANTED FOR PLUM FAYRE: Once again we are collecting teddies to sell at the Plum Fayre Teddy Stall on Monday 27 August. Donations would be very much appreciated, please place in the "Teddy Box" at the back of the Abbey or phone Liz Gunhouse or Suzanne Clarke. *Thank you.*

PLUM FAYRE HELPERS NEEDED - BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 27 AUGUST: Refreshments of tea and cakes will be served in St Andrew's Centre, we need helpers for a 2 hour session between 1000 and 1600. We would be grateful for any cakes or if you don't want to make a cake a donation would be appreciated. Sign up sheets are at the back of the Abbey. *Thank you.*

CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO FOR MORNING PRAISE? Simon Collett who has been our pianist has had to leave us to play elsewhere. We thank Simon so much and wish him well with his new venture. But it means we need some more help. So can you, or someone you know, play the piano to accompany us in our three hymns and music before and after the service? Services are held on every 4th Sunday from 9.30 till 10.00. We have one offer of occasional help but need at least one other to make sure we can cover these services. This short, non-eucharist service is an important part of our ministry and has a lovely congregation. So please help us if you can, both Claire and I can give more information. *Peter Stansbie*



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE

TODAY

PICNIC IN THE PARK - IN ST ANDREW'S GARDENS

SUNDAY 15 JULY BETWEEN 12:00 - 14:00

BBQ available for anyone wishing to cook sausages etc,
bring your own picnic lunch with you.

Games available for children.

Come and enjoy the warm weather and fellowship!

PERSHORE RIVERSIDE YOUTH CENTRE RAFFLE: The Riverside Youth Centre is an important organisation in our town and last year we chose to support it with our mission giving. This year's River Festival is on 21st July and as part of the celebrations the Youth Centre are holding a Luxury Raffle to boost their funds. If you would like to support the work and outreach of the Centre raffles tickets will be available after Sunday services today. Thank you.
Claire

BOOKSTALL SECURITY BOX UPDATE: Thank you to everyone who has collected the additional key - from now on you will now need both keys, old and new - one for the cupboard and one for the security box. If there is anyone who has not collected theirs, the keys will be available in the office between 11:00 and 13:00 on weekdays. *Toni.*

MAYOR'S COFFEE MORNING - SATURDAY 28 JULY: In aid of Prostate Cancer Support,
1000 - 1200, Pershore Town Hall

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: Friday 10 August, "Water Music" boating, refreshments, garden, music. More information to follow.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP UPDATE: Sara Speed has agreed that she will co-ordinate a group to lead our Parent and Toddler Group on Friday mornings. However she needs some helpers who can lead the group no more than once a month. Also some people who will provide cover less frequently for holidays etc. Can you help? We really do want to keep this important ministry going and we need to arrange for some 'training' before Jean Pritchard leaves. Please speak to Sara, Claire or Jean if you can help. Many thanks.

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.*

YOUTH DRAMA WORKSHOPS IN ST ANDREWS 6 -9 AUGUST 2018 - Drama Workshops for 11 to 16 year olds at St Andrews church hall between 2pm and 4 pm. £60.00 for all 4 sessions which include improvisation, building a character, confidence building, performance skills and finding your creative spark! The facilitator is Auriol Burgess, a trained actress who has taught LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) for over ten years. Tel: Gabrielle Productions on 07990 815428 for further information.

OFFICE CLOSURES

The Pershore Abbey and Benefice office will be closed on Wednesday 18 July due to staff holidays. At other times the office may only be staffed during our normal public hours of 1100 to 1300. We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

PLEASE TAKE THIS SERVICE SHEET & PEW BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU.
PLEASE LEAVE THE SERVICE BOOKLET WHEN YOU LEAVE.

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 15 July 2018

TRINITY 7

08:00 Eucharist (A)

10:30 All-Age Eucharist with Laying on of Hands

with Junior Church & Upper Room Group Presentation (A)

12:00 Churches Together In Pershore Picnic (St Andrew's Gardens)

Monday 16 July

13:00 Funeral of the late Betty Hallen (A & St A)

18:00 Weight Watchers (St A)

(1830 meeting start)

18:00 Wick PCC (W)

19:30 Bells (A)

Tuesday 17 July

09:20 Foodbank Steering Group (St A)

09:30 Bells (St A)

10:00 Meditation Group

(Holy Redeemer Catholic Church)

11:00 CTIP Food Bank (St A)

19:00 Abbey PCC (St A)

Wednesday 18 July

10:30 Lunch Club - Enquiries 554299 (St A)

(Service from 1130)

11:00 Eucharist (Heathlands)

20:00 Vale Harmony (St A) Main Hall

Thursday 19 July

09:00 Weight Watchers

(09:15 meeting start)

09:30 Vicar & Wardens' Meeting

(St A Upstairs)

10:00 Meeting with concert organiser (A)

19:00 Guitar Class (St A)

Friday 20 July

09:30 Parent and Toddlers (St A)

11:00 Eucharist (A)

13:00 CTIP Food Bank (St A)

18:00 Choir Practice (A)

19:30 Bells (Stuart Piper)

Saturday 21 July

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Sunday 22 July

13:00 Private Booking (St A)

SUNDAY 22 JULY 2018

Mary Magdalene

08:00 Eucharist (A)

09:30 Morning Praise (A)

10:30 Sung Eucharist (A)

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (A)

Louie Peter Ballard, Henry Joshua Ballard, Alyssa Grace Sheridan