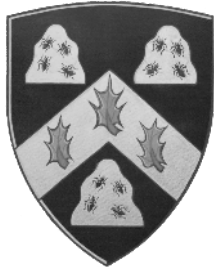


THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS  
PERSHORE



THE FRIENDS OF  
**PERSHORE ABBEY**  
Charitable Incorporated Organisation

# Patronal Festival

WITH THE FRIENDS OF PERSHORE ABBEY CIO

Sunday, 11 September, 2022  
at 1030

---

We gather this morning as the family of Pershore Abbey who wish to honour all that this holy and sacred place means to us.

We also gather as a community, and as individuals, who have been shocked and deeply saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

At this time of national mourning we come here to remember, to commemorate, to pray and to console one another, confident in the faith that the Queen shared, that after a lifetime of Christian service she now rests in God's eternal peace.

May we pray for her soul and for all those who mourn, especially her family.

A warm welcome to Pershore Abbey this morning  
for our Patronal Festival

We welcome the Friends of the Abbey

This service is being live streamed to the Abbey's YouTube Channel  
To find the recording please visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for  
Persore Abbey Community

[Persore Abbey Community on YouTube](#)

If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden

## *The Gathering*

*(Crucifer)*

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,  
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:

Let every race and every language tell  
of him who saves our souls from death and hell:

From farthest regions let their homage bring,  
and on his cross adore their Saviour King:

Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease  
beneath the shadow of its healing peace.

For thy blest cross which doth for all atone  
creation's praises rise before thy throne:

[George W Kitchin, 1827-1912 & Michael R Newbolt, 1874-1956]

## The Greeting

The Lord be with you.  
*All* And also with you.

*The Book of The Friends of Pershore Abbey is presented and  
laid out on the altar*

## Prayer of Preparation

*All* Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden,  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy Name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Prayers of Penitence

God shows his love for us in that,  
while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Romans 5.8*

*All* 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.

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*All* Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## The Collect for Holy Cross Day

Almighty God,  
who in the passion of your blessed Son  
made an instrument of painful death  
to be for us the means of life and peace:  
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ  
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* Amen.

### *The Liturgy of the Word*

#### Readings

A reading from the Book of Numbers

The Israelites left Mount Hor by the road to the Sea of Suph, to skirt the land of Edom. On the way the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of the unsatisfying food.' At this, God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people; and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

(Numbers 21:4-9)

For the word of the Lord.

*All* Thanks be to God.

## A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:6-11 )

For the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

*(The Servant King)*

1. From heaven you came, helpless babe,  
entered our world, your glory veiled;  
not to be served, but to serve,  
and give your life that we might live.
2. There in the garden of tears,  
my heavy load he chose to bear;  
his heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will, but yours,' He said.
3. Come see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.
4. So let us learn how to serve,  
and in our lives enthrone him;  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.

[Graham Kendrick b. 1950]

## Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*All* Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*All* Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to Nicodemus, 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

(John 3:13-17)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

*Canon Claire Lording*

The Creed

*All* We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us, and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to the Father through his Son,  
who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption.

We give thanks for the faithful witness of this Abbey  
down through the centuries.  
We give thanks for The Friends of Pershore Abbey,  
for their dedication and constant support.

Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church.  
Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing  
to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* Lord, save us and help us.



Bless those who lead the Church's worship.  
In the preaching of the word  
and the celebration of the sacraments,  
draw your people close to you.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* Lord, save us and help us.

Give your grace to those who preach your word to the nations.  
Help us to witness to the faith we have received  
by our words and in our deeds,  
and daily conform us more and more to Christ,  
that we may glory in his cross.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* Lord, save us and help us.

Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much  
that you sent your Son to suffer and to die.  
Strengthen those who work to share  
the reconciliation won at such a cost upon the cross.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* Lord, save us and help us.

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ  
to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice.  
Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying,  
to find strength in the companionship of Jesus,  
and in his passion to know their salvation.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* Lord, save us and help us.

Welcome into paradise all who have left this world in  
your friendship.  
According to your promises,  
bring them with all your saints  
to share in the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* Lord, save us and help us.

Holy God, holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God  
in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*All* And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*(Harewood)*

1. Christ is our corner-stone,  
on him alone we build;  
with his true saints alone  
the courts of heaven are filled:  
    on his great love  
    our hopes we place  
    of present grace  
    and joys above.
2. O then with hymns of praise  
these hallowed courts shall ring;  
our voices we will raise  
the Three in One to sing;  
    and thus proclaim  
    in joyful song,  
    both loud and long,  
    that glorious name.
3. Here, gracious God, do thou  
for evermore draw nigh;  
accept each faithful vow,  
and mark each suppliant sigh;  
    in copious shower  
    on all who pray  
    each holy day  
    thy blessings pour.
4. Here may we gain from heaven  
the grace which we implore;  
and may that grace, once given,  
be with us evermore,  
    until that day  
    when all the blest  
    to endless rest  
    are called away.

[John Chandler, 1806-1876]

### Preparation of the Table

Merciful God,  
through the death of your beloved Son  
you transformed an instrument of shame  
into a sign of hope and glory.  
Receive all we bring before you this day,  
and renew us in the mystery of his love;  
through the same Jesus Christ,  
the Lord of glory.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.  
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today we celebrate with songs of praise  
the cross, the victory-sign of Christ.  
Once through the fruit of the forbidden tree we fell,  
now through this tree our Saviour cancels all our sin.  
An instrument of shameful death  
has become for Christ a throne of glory.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.  
And so, with choirs of angels  
and with all the heavenly host,  
we proclaim your glory  
and join their unending hymn of praise:

*All* Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
*All* Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All* 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 for ever.  
Amen.

## Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
*All* Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.

## The Agnus Dei

*All* Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

## Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for  
you and feed on him in your hearts,  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*During the distribution the choir will sing "Ave Verum" - Mozart  
The President and people receive communion*

(Caithness)

O Cross of Christ, immortal tree  
on which our Saviour died,  
the world is sheltered by your arms  
that bore the Crucified.

From bitter death and barren wood  
the tree of life is made;  
its branches bear unfailing fruit  
and leaves that never fade.

O faithful Cross, you stand unmoved  
while ages run their course;  
foundation of the universe,  
creation's minding force.

Give glory to the risen Christ  
and to his Cross give praise,  
the sign of God's unfathomed love,  
the hope of all our days.

(Community of Stanbrook Abbey)

## Prayer after Communion

Faithful God,  
whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree  
and gave us this sacrament  
to show forth his death until he comes:  
give us grace to glory in the cross  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for he is our salvation,  
our life and our hope,  
who reigns as Lord,  
now and for ever.

All Amen.

*All* Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls  
and bodies to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.  
Amen.

*(Westminster Abbey)*

1. Blessèd city, heavenly Salem,  
vision dear of peace and love,  
who of living stones art builded  
in the height of heaven above,  
and with angel hosts encircled,  
as a bride dost earthward move!
2. Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the Head and comer-stone,  
chosen of the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the church in one,  
Holy Sion's help for ever,  
and her confidence alone.
3. To this temple, where we call thee,  
come, O Lord of Hosts, to-day;  
with thy wonted loving-kindness  
hear thy servants as they pray,  
and thy fullest benediction  
shed within its walls alway.
4. Here vouchsafe to all thy servants  
what they ask of thee to gain,  
what they gain from thee for ever  
with the blessed to retain,  
and hereafter in thy glory  
evermore with thee to reign.
5. Laud and honour to the Father,  
laud and honour to the Son,  
Laud and honour to the Spirit,  
ever Three, and ever One,  
consubstantial, co-eternal,  
while unending ages run.

[Trans. John Mason Neale, 1818 - 1866]

### *The Dismissal*

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

*All* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand, if you are able, as we sing the first verse of the National Anthem*

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*,  
material from which is included in this service,  
is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000,

*Common Worship: Festivals* material  
from which is included in this service is copyright:  
© The Archbishops' Council 2008.

Scripture readings are taken from *The New Revised Standard Version (Anglicized Edition)*,  
copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the  
Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

*CCLI Licence Number 46441*