

Café Church

The fresh way to
Worship in Pershore



Monthly on the Second Sunday
in the St Andrew's Centre

WORSHIP • MUSIC • REFRESHMENTS



Welcome to Café Church Pershore

Sunday 12 March 2023

It's great to have you with us. Grab a coffee/tea/ juice and help yourself to some refreshments.

Feel free to let the kids play with the toys and do colouring. Don't worry about noise. God loves to hear the joy of his people, especially his young ones.

Our time is for around 45 minutes, and we hope you have a fab time.

Here is the order of service. You are invited to join in with the **bits in bold**.



Order of Service

Greeting

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognise his presence with us.

(Silence is kept)

As God's people we have gathered:

Let us worship him together.

Opening Prayer

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you.

Amen.

Prayer of Preparation

**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.

Song – Father, hear the prayer we offer

Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.

Not forever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.

Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.

Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wand'rings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.

©Love Maria Whitcomb Willis (1824 – 1908)

Tune: Sussex (33321) – a traditional English tune, composer unknown

We say sorry to God for the things we get wrong.

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do,
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:
Save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
Save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed
to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
Save us and help us.

The leader shares the assurance of God's forgiveness

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.

The Collect- The Church's special prayer of the day.

Eternal God,
give us insight to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let's listen now to God's Word - John 4: 5 – 26

In Samaria he came to a town named Sychar, which was not far from the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw some water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink of water." (His disciples had gone into town to buy food.)

The woman answered, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan – so how can you ask me for a drink?" (Jews will not use the same cups and bowls that Samaritans use.)

Jesus answered, "If only you knew what God gives and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would ask him, and he would give you life-giving water."

"Sir," the woman said, "you haven't got a bucket, and the well is deep. Where would you get that life-giving water? It was our ancestor Jacob who gave us this well; he and his sons and his flocks all drank from it. You don't claim to be greater than Jacob, do you?"

Jesus answered, "Whoever drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water that I give will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will

become in him a spring which will provide him with life-giving water and give him eternal life.”

“Sir,” the woman said, give me that water! Then I will never be thirsty again, nor will I have to come here to draw water.”

“Go and call your husband,” Jesus told her, “and come back.”

“I haven’t got a husband,” she answered.

Jesus replied, “You are right when you say you haven’t got a husband. You have been married to five men, and the man you live with now is not really your husband. You have told me the truth.”

“I see you are a prophet, sir,” the woman said. “My Samaritan ancestors worshipped God on this mountain, but you Jews say that Jerusalem is the place where we should worship God.”

Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the time will come when people will not worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You Samaritans do not really know whom you worship; but we Jews know whom we worship, because it is from the Jews that salvation comes. But the time is coming and is already here, when by the power of God’s Spirit people will worship the Father as he really is, offering him the true worship that he wants. God is Spirit, and only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is.”

The woman said to him, “I know that the Messiah will come, and when he comes, he will tell us everything.”

Jesus answered, “I am he, I who am talking to you.”

Now sit back and listen to today’s short talk.

Song – As the Deer Pants for the Water

As the deer pants for the water,
so, my soul longs after you.

You alone are my heart’s desire
And I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength,
my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire
and I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver
and the apple of my eye.

You're my Friend
and you're my Brother,
even though you are a King.
I love you more than any other,
So much more than anything.

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Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

We have a short time of prayer together.

After the main prayers we join together to say The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Song – Have You Heard the Raindrops? (Water of Life)

Have you heard the raindrops
drumming on the roof tops?
Have you heard the raindrops
dripping on the ground?
Have you heard the raindrops
splashing in the streams
and running to the rivers all around?

*There's water, water of life,
Jesus gives us the water of life.
There's water, water of life,
Jesus gives us the water of life.*

There's a busy workman digging in the desert,
digging with a spade that flashes in the sun.
Soon there will be water rising in the well shaft,
Spilling from the bucket as it comes.

Nobody can live who hasn't any water,
When the land is dry then nothing much grows.
Jesus gives us life if we drink the living water,
Sing it so that everybody knows.

Final Prayer

Loving God, just as we have poured this water into the empty jug and bowl, please fill all of us with your loving spirit. Help us to become fountains of your living water and to show your love and kindness to others in the midst of a thirsting world. We pray this prayer in the name of God, who is the 'living water.'

Amen.

@developmenteducation.ie/media/documents/MEDCpost-primary-prayer-service

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord:

thanks be to God.

Blessing, honour and glory be yours,

here and everywhere,

now and for ever.

Amen.

Material taken from All-sorts Worship Year A © Copyright 2010 Claire Benton-Evans and New Patterns for Worship
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Pershore Abbey CCLI: 46441

Cafe Church next date:

2 April 2023

Dates for your diary:

Pershore Abbey Parish Coffee Morning

18 March 1030-1200 noon St Andrew's

Mothering Sunday All Age Eucharist

19 March 1030 Pershore Abbey

Good Friday Activity Day

7 April 1000-1415 St Andrew's - booking essential

Please call Suzanne Clarke on 01386 553293 by 20 March

