

Pershore Abbey



Carol Service

2023

**Bienvenue, Willkommen, Ласкаво просимо, Karibu and
Welcome to our Carol Service**

The congregation is invited to stand, if you are able, for the carols and sit for the choir pieces and readings. We all, if able, stand for the seventh lesson.

Organ music before the service

Canonic variations on Von Himmel hoch BWV769 – *Bach (1685-1750)*

Carol - Once in royal David's city

Carol number 19 from The Bethlehem carol sheet
(verse 1 choir only)

Welcome & Bidding Prayer

The First Lesson

Read by Councillor Richard Grantham - Mayor of Pershore

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Christ's birth and Kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

Carol – Hark! The herald-angels sing

Carol Number 10 from the carol sheet

The Second Lesson

Read by Mr John Gardener – Vice Chair, Pinvin CE Federation of Schools

Micah 5:2-5a

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Carol – O little town of Bethlehem

Carol Number 1 from the carol sheet

The Third Lesson

Read by Mrs. Suzanne Clarke – Abbey Churchwarden

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Choir sing

Nativity Carol

John Rutter (b.1945)

1. Born in a stable so bare
Born so long ago
Born 'neath light of star
He who loved us so
Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

2. Cradled by mother so fair
Tender her lullaby
Over her son so dear
Angel hosts fill the sky
Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

3. Wise men from distant far land
Shepherds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare
Hearts with his warmth he fills
Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

4. Love in that stable was born
Into our hearts to flow
Innocent dreaming babe
Make me thy love to know
Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

Carol – It came upon a midnight clear

Carol Number 14 from the carol sheet

The Fourth Lesson

Read by Mr Duncan Cadbury – President of Friends of The Pershore Abbey CIO

Matthew 1:18-23

St Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

Carol – Silent night, holy night

Carol Number 13 from the carol sheet

The Fifth Lesson

Read by Mr Alistair Henderson – Abbey Deputy Tower Captain

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

The Choir sing

Whence is the goodly fragrance flowing

(French, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015))

1. Whence is the goodly fragrance flowing,
Stealing our senses all away,
Never the like did come a-blowing,
Shepherds, in flow'ry fields of May,
Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing,
Stealing our senses all away.
2. What is that light so brilliant, breaking
Here in the night across our eyes.
Never so bright, the day-star waking,
Started to climb the morning skies!
What is that light so brilliant, breaking,
Here in the night across our eyes.
3. Bethlehem! there in manger lying,
Find your Redeemer haste away,
Run ye with eager footsteps vieing!
Worship the Saviour born today.
Bethlehem! there in manger lying,
Find your Redeemer haste away.

Carol – While shepherds watched

Carol Number 7 from the carol sheet

The Sixth Lesson

*Read by Dr Christine Dodd – Churches Together in Pershore
(Holy Redeemer Catholic Church)*

Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men are led by a star to Jesus.

Carol – We three kings of Orient are

(during which the collection will be taken)

Carol Number 21 from the carol sheet

The Seventh Lesson

Read by The Revd Jayne Parker – Assistant Curate

John 1:1-14

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

The Choir sing

Resonemus laudibus

Traditional, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

1. Resonemus laudibus
Cum jocunditatibus
Ecclesiam fidelibus
Apparuit quem genuit Maria

2. Deus fecit hominem
Ad suam imaginem
Et similitudinem
Apparuit ..

4. Ergo nostro concio
In chordis et organo
Benedictat Domino,
Apparuit..

3. Deus fecit omnia
Celum, Terram, maria,
Cunctaque nascentia
Apparuit...

5. Et Deo qui venias
Donat et laetitia
Nos eidem gracias.
Apparuit..

Translation:

1. Let us resound our praises with those of the faithful Church.. to Him that is born unto Mary.
2. God made man in his own image, and in his likeness...
3. God made Heaven, Earth, and all that therein is...
4. In our sermon, with strings and organ..
5. And let us give thanks to God, who bestows grace and joy..

Carol – O come, all ye faithful

Carol Number 12 from the carol sheet (*verses 1-3 only*)

Collect

The Blessing

Organ voluntary - In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729 Bach (1685-1750)

The congregation are invited to remain in their seats during the playing of the voluntary

Organist: Iain Simcock
Music Director: Paul Trepte

Please stay and join us after the service for refreshments

This service is being live streamed to the Abbey's YouTube Channel

To find the recording please visit

www.youtube.com and search for Pershore Abbey Community

[Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube](#)

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



Please join us at
PERSHORE ABBEY
for **CHRISTMAS 2023**

Sunday 17 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*
- 1700 Christmas Carol Service (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Morning Praise (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*
- 1530 Christingle Service (*Pershore Abbey*)
Dress up in your favourite nativity outfit for our traditional Christingle!
- 2315 Midnight Mass with Choir (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



Christmas Day Monday 25 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 All Age Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

New Year's Eve Sunday 31 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

Join in with our **LIVESTREAM services at the time advertised on the Pershore Abbey Community YouTube Channel or catch up later*

www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

email: office@pershoreabbey.org.uk



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