



MORNING PRAISE

PERSHORE ABBEY

Sunday, 25 May 2025

EASTER 6 / ROGATION SUNDAY

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. To find the recording visit www.youtube.com and search for **Pershore Abbey Community** [Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube](#)

Please take this sheet home with you and recycle when you have finished with it. If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden.

Welcome and Introduction

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

**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.**

Hymn 635

For the healing of the nations

ALLELUIA DULCE CARMEN

1 For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

2 Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

4 You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

[Fred Khan (1929-2009)]

Please sit or kneel for the Prayers of Penitence

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart. We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation. God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the day

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Reading: Acts 16.9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 236

Breathe on me breath of God

CARLISLE

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do. | 2 | Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure. |
| 3 | Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine;
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine. | 4 | Breathe on me, Breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity. |

[Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)]

The Gospel - John 5.1-9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?'

The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.' Jesus

said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.' At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Please stand for our Affirmation of Faith

We say together:

**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.**

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were their hearts glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Please sit or kneel as we offer God our Prayers and Thanks. At the end of each prayer when you hear 'God of love' please respond 'hear our prayer'. We end by saying together 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 forever. Amen.**

Hymn during which the collection will be taken:

Hymn *Iona Book*

11

Christ has risen

HYFRYDOL

1 Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing,
let the sun sustain the cheer,
let the world confirm the rumour:
Christ is risen! God is here!

2 Christ has risen for the people
whom he loved and died to save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
can't be silenced by the tomb.

3 Christ has risen to companion
former friends who fear the night,
sensing loss and limitation
where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer,
they expect no hopeful sign
till Christ ends their conversation,
breaking bread and sharing wine.

4 Christ has risen, and forever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present
making us what he has been -
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

Known Unknowns (John L Bell & Graham Maule/Wild Goose Resource Group)

Thanksgiving and Blessing

God of our salvation, you have restored us to life, you have brought us back again into your love by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ. Continue to heal us, as we go to live and work in the power of your Spirit, to your praise and glory. **Amen.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Organ Voluntary: Toccata & Fugue in d minor BWV 565—JS Bach
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary*

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PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

25 MAY 2025

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

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

Vicar: The Revd Canon Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker

Email: curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mrs Sam Andrews 07443904635 Mr Martin Fowler (01386) 552243

The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

Alveston House, 11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB (01386) 552071

BENEFICE OFFICE OPENING HOURS

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 1100 - 1200 ONLY (excluding Bank Holidays)

The office staff will also be available to answer enquiries by phone or email on weekday mornings from **0930 –1300**

Please email your enquiry to office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on 01386 552071 and they will get back to you as soon as they can.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT TODAY, PRAYING ESPECIALLY FOR ALL PEOPLES OF THE HOLY LAND AND UKRAINE. WE PRAY FOR LASTING PEACE.

We pray for those whose weddings, blessings and baptisms are taking place and for all those who are making new plans to celebrate these special life events.

We pray for all those welcoming new life into their families.

We pray for those in need.

We pray for those who have died and for their families and friends.

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

DAPHNE GLOVER RIP: We were all saddened to learn of Daphne's death. She was such a stalwart of both the church and the wider community and will be greatly missed. Everyone is invited to her funeral which will be at the Abbey at 1400 on 30 May.



Heavenly Father, we thank you for those you call to faithfully lead and shepherd your church. As we seek a new Bishop of Worcester, help us to be attentive to the Holy Spirit's guidance, give us heavenly wisdom, and bless our diocese that we might enter a new season of growth and fruitfulness as Kingdom People.

For your glory and in the name of Christ. Amen

If you need any help in accessing any of the online features mentioned in the service sheet or bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact the office or Canon Claire Lording for support.



PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

FEBRUARY - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: Thank you all for your continued prayers and good wishes. I have now started my post-surgery chemotherapy and am grateful that side effects seem to be minimal at the moment. I have had confirmation that my treatment should be finished by the end of June. Please continue to pray for me, for all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*

IONA SERVICE - SUNDAY 25 MAY, 1700: We will be exploring the thought provoking story of a farmer and community leader in Guatamala, who is helping her community be resilient to the impact of environmental degradation. If you would like a zoom link for the service, email Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ST ANDREW'S PASTORAL SCHEME: Please see the notice at the back of the Abbey and on our [website](#) regarding proposals for the Abbey to be responsible for St Andrew's Centre.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE



Thursday 29 May
1900
PERSHORE ABBEY

We begin our **Thy Kingdom Come 2025** journey with a special Benefice Sung Eucharist, marking the moment Jesus ascended into heaven before his disciples.

Please join us in church - all welcome

NOVENA OF PRAYER



Come Holy Spirit



Friday 30 May to
Saturday 7 June
1900
Zoom

Join us on Zoom during this special 'Novena' (a nine-day period of prayer) as we pray with others in the Benefice, and across the world, for the Holy Spirit to come.

If you would like to be part of this 10-15 minutes of prayer, please contact Claire on vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBAY PCC REPORT: The PCC met on Thursday 20 May, the first time since the APCM. We elected the various officers and sub-committees that help to run the Abbey and appointed our Sidespeople, grateful as always to those who help with the running of our busy Abbey. We reviewed our successful Easter season. We especially welcomed the Wreath Festival that was being enjoyed by so many. Sam Andrews shared with us new resources from iSingPOP that will help with all age worship. We were very impressed and agreed to buy these for our use and at a discount because of the Diocese link to iSingPOP. We heard of the work going on to plan the replacement of our ageing heating system, taking account of the Diocesan aim to reach net zero by 2030. Our finances were looked at for the first three months of the year. We will meet next on 8 July.

PLEASE SEE OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR FURTHER NOTICES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire's usual day off is Friday. Claire will not be available for commitments on this day.

Sunday 25 May - Easter 6 / Rogation

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
09:30 Carnival Teas Set Up (*St Andrew's Main*)
10:30 Morning Praise with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)
10:30 Rogation Service (*Orchard Farm, Pinvin*)
15:00 Spring Walk Around Birlingham (*Birlingham*)
17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 26 May - Bank Holiday

09:30 Yoga (*St Andrew's Upper*)
11:00 Carnival Teas (*St Andrew's Main*)
10:30 Bells - FOM Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)
18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)
19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

Tuesday 27 May

09:30 Arrival of Foodbank Staff (*St Andrew's Main*)
11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
14:30 Mothers' Union (*St Andrew's Main*)
14:30 Funeral Bells (*Pershore Abbey*)
15:00 Funeral of the late Mary Bickmore
(*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Wedding Rehearsal (*Pershore Abbey*)

Wednesday 28 May

10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (*Pershore Abbey*)
12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
14:00 Bring Your Own Craft & Chat
(*St Andrew's Main*)
14:15 U3A Bridge Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)
19:00 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 29 May - Ascension Day

Our friends from Salzwedel arrive

12:00 U3A Group Leaders' Lunch
(*St Andrew's Main*)
12:00 Funeral of the late Tania Harris
(*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 30 May

10:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:00 Ukrainian Women's Empowerment
Network (*St Andrew's Upper*)
13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
14:00 Funeral of the late Daphne Glover
(*Pershore Abbey*)
18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)
19:00 Salzwedel Supper (*St Andrew's Main*)

Saturday 31 May

09:30 Wedding Flowers Set Up (*Pershore Abbey*)
13:00 Wedding of James Legg & Megan Marshall
(*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)
19:00 Salzwedel Skittles Match & Fun
(*Pershore Sports Club*)

Sunday 01 June Sunday after Ascension

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
08:30 Salzwedel Farewell Breakfast
(*St Andrew's Main*)
09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Sung Eucharist with Fairtrade Stall and
with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)
10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)
16:00 Evensong Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)
19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)