



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 10 August 2025
TRINITY 8

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. Visit www.youtube.com and search for [Pershore Abbey Community](#)
Please use this sheet in conjunction with the service booklet provided. 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.

THE COLLECT

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 15.1-6

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he

received power of procreation, even though he was too old – and Sarah herself was barren – because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them. **Amen.**

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 12.32-40

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **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.



HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 652

CWM RHONDDA

1 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

[William Williams (1717-1791)
Translated by Peter Williams (1727-1796)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 690

JESUS IS LORD

1 Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it,
For by his power each tree and flower was planned and made.
Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it;
Sun, moon and stars in heaven cry; Jesus is Lord!

*Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!
Praise him with Alleluias, for Jesus is Lord!*

2 Jesus is Lord! Yet from his throne eternal
In flesh he came to die in pain on Calvary's tree.
Jesus is Lord! From him all life proceeding,
Yet gave his life a ransom, thus setting us free:

3 Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror,
From death he rose; and all his foes shall own his name.
Jesus is Lord! God sends his Holy Spirit
To show by works of power that Jesus is Lord!

[David John Mansell (b.1936)]

THIRD HYMN

A&M 451

SAFFRON WALDEN

1 Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

2 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

5 Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

3 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

6 Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

[Charlotte Elliot (1789-1871)]

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 489

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.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

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]

- 1 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

- 2 Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

- 3 Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

- 4 Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

- 5 Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)]

Organ Voluntary: Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne—Dietrich Buxtehude
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

10 AUGUST 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.

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

THE NEW BISHOP OF WORCESTER IS ANNOUNCED: Hugh Nelson has been announced as the new Bishop of Worcester. Bishop Hugh is currently the Bishop of St Germans in the Diocese of Truro, a position he has held since 2020, serving as the Acting Bishop of Truro from Sept 2023 until May this year. He is also Bishop to the Armed Forces, providing spiritual and pastoral leadership to Anglican Chaplains serving in the Royal Navy, British Army and Royal Air Force, a role which he will continue to hold as Bishop of Worcester.



ALM CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORKER COURSE: This autumn, we are hoping to run 2 cohorts of our ALM Children and Youth worker training, in the north and south of the diocese. If you feel called to work with and pray for children and young people,

supporting them in their Christian faith journey through leading ministry in church, school and community, then this could be the course for you! It is delivered over 8 sessions, helping participants to reflect on their context and experience, consider a theology for children and youth ministry and learn the nuts and bolts of planning, leading and reflecting on ministry together. Our aim is to deliver sessions at a time and location convenient to the group members, beginning late September/early October 2025. If you are interested in finding out more, please come along to our information session on Tuesday 16 September 1900 on Zoom to book your place: <https://forms.office.com/e/dbq765VCQv> Further information about the ALM Children and Youth Worker course and a role description can be viewed [here](#). *Sam Andrews*

KOORSCHOOL DELFT CHOIR EVENSONG: If available, do attend this special Evensong with visiting choir Koorschool Delft on Friday 15 August at 1700 at the Abbey.

TEDDY PRAISE SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 1415: Join us at the Bandstand in Abbey Park for our annual Teddy Praise service - a short service for all the family, and their teddy bears! Children and adults alike are encouraged to bring along their favourite teddy! It is a fun service, which will be taking place as part of the Plum Festival weekend.

GO LIGHT YOUR WORLD: Pershore Baptist Church is hosting a special cultural evening of traditional Thai dance, song and food at 1830 on Saturday 30 August. Tickets are £15, including a Thai meal, and are available at www.pershorebaptist.co.uk or by contacting the church treasurer treasurer.pershorebaptist@gmail.com



EARLY RISERS NEEDED: If you are an early riser, we need your help to marshal the Classic Car event on Monday 26 August. We need people on site from 0800 till 1200 to help with the smooth running of the day. If you can help please contact Suzanne Clarke on 01386 553293.

PLUM FAYRE DAY HELP: The loan of garden furniture would be much appreciated for St Andrew's garden for the Plum Fayre Day refreshments on Monday 25 August. Please contact Jane Knox on 01386 556981. For those who have kindly offered cakes, please bring them on Sunday 24 August to either the 0800 or 1030 service - boxes will be at the back of the Abbey labelled either frozen or fresh. Additional offers of homemade cakes or monetary donations are always very welcome. *Thank you from the PASA Team*

TEDDY BEAR VOLUNTEERS: We need volunteers to help with all of the teddy bear based activities taking place in the Abbey on August Bank Holiday Monday. If you would like to help please contact Suzanne Clarke on 01386 553293.

TEDDY BEARS WANTED FOR PLUM FAYRE: The Abbey is collecting teddies to sell at the Plum Fayre Teddy Stall on Monday 26 August. Donations would be very much appreciated. Please place in the 'Teddy Box' at the back of the Abbey or phone Suzanne Clarke on 553293.



ABBEY ECO CHURCH WEEDY PICK REMINDER: If you could spare just one hour on Saturday 16 August to help us keep the paths free from weeds, please do join us! Meet at the West End of the Abbey at 1000. All Welcome. *Judy Dale*

PLEASE SEE OUR JULY & AUGUST BULLETIN FOR MORE NOTICES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire is on annual leave until Monday 18 August 2025

Sunday 10 August - Trinity 8

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:30 Café Church (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Sung Eucharist with LIVESTREAM (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)

17:00 Wholeness and Healing (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 11 August

09:30 Yoga Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

10:00 U3A Ukelele Group (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

19:00 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Upper*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

Tuesday 12 August

09:00 Abbey Summer Activity Morning
(*Pershore Abbey*)

09:30 Arrival of Foodbank Staff
(*St Andrew's Main*)

09:30 Bells - Vale of Evesham Peal (*St Andrew's*)

11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Abbey Women's Fellowship
(*St Andrew's Main*)

Wednesday 13 August

09:00 Sound Engineers (*St Andrew's*)

10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 Sound Engineers (*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Bring Your Own Craft & Chat
(*St Andrew's Main*)

15:45 V&W Meeting (*Vicar's Vestry*)

Thursday 14 August

09:00 Sound Engineers (*St Andrew's*)

11:00 Eucharist (*Rolland Rutter Court*)

11:00 Support Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

15:00 Funeral for the late Elizabeth Wright
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 15 August

09:30 Summer's Little Seeds (*St Andrew's Main*)

11:30 P & R Security (*Pershore Abbey*)

11:50 Laying of wreath to commemorate
VJ Day (*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 National Two-Minute Silence to mark
VJ Day (*Pershore Abbey*)

13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Koorschool Delft Choir Rehearsal
(*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Koorschool Delft Choir Evensong
(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bells - Pershore Development
Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

19:30 i-Sing Choir Set-up (*Pershore Abbey*)

Saturday 16 August

10:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:00 Visiting Bell Ringers Peal (*St Andrew's*)

10:00 Abbey Eco Church Weedy Pick
(*Pershore Abbey*)

13:00 Private Hire (*St Andrew's Upper*)

14:00 iSing Choir Summer Sing Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 iSing Choir Summer Sing Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 17 August - Trinity 9

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Sung Eucharist with Fairtrade Stall and
with LIVESTREAM (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

