



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 17 August 2025
TRINITY 9

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**](https://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 God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23.23-29

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back - those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11.29-12.2

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

By faith the people of Israel passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection.

Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. **Amen.**

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 12.49-56

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

He also said to the crowds, ‘When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, “It is going to rain”; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?’

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 784

MORNING LIGHT

1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
ye soldiers of the cross!
Lift high his royal banner,
it must not suffer loss.
From victory unto victory
his army he shall lead,
till every foe is vanquished,
and Christ is Lord indeed.

2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the solemn watchword hear;
If while ye sleep he suffers,
away with shame and fear.
Where'er ye meet with evil,
within you or without,
charge for the God of battles,
and put the foe to rout.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you,
ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armour,
each piece put on with prayer;
when duty calls or danger
be never wanting there.

4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the strife will not be long;
this day the noise of battle,
the next the victor's song.
To him that overcometh
a crown of life shall be;
he with the King of glory
shall reign eternally.

[George Duffield (1818-1888)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 712

LIVING LORD

1 Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in;
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
living Lord.

2 Lord Jesus Christ,
now and every day,
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you:
into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.

3 Lord Jesus Christ
you have come to us,
born as one of us,
Mary's son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see,
you are Lord.

4 Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
live my life for you,
son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through,
living Lord.

[Patrick Appleford (1925-2018)]

1 Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

2 When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the Just, is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

3 Behold him there! the risen Lamb!
my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with my Lord, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

[Charitie Lees De Chenez (1841-1923)]

COMMUNION HYMN**A&M 452*****PICARDY***

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture —
in the body and the blood —
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high.

Cherubic Hymn from Liturgy of St James
Versified by Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)

- 1 Source and fount of all creation,
 Pour your Spirit from above
On all bearers of your image,
 Offspring of a human love.
Human hopes and human graces
 Break beneath the weight of sin;
Fear and envy wrench asunder
 World without and self within.

- 2 Human love is unavailing
 Counter-weight to sin and strife
Love of God alone can hold us
 On the way that leads to life.
Praised be God, whose Son our Saviour
 Human nature has restored,
Living, dying, raised in glory,
 To the likeness of its Lord.

- 3 Trace, O Christ, salvation's pattern,
 God and sinner reconciled,
In an all-embracing story:
 New creation, new born child.
Word incarnate, world's Redeemer,
 Here in us your work repeat,
Signed and sealed your own for ever,
 Till the pattern stands complete.

- 4 Christ our universal Saviour,
 Nature's poet, nature's priest,
Through life's troubled waters bring us
 To the eucharistic feast,
Where rejoicing saint and sinner
 Praise the Lord of time and space,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
 Fount of being, source of grace.

[Peter Baelz (1923-2000)]

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

17 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

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 of 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*

A BIG THANK YOU - AND A REQUEST FOR HELP: After many, many years Olive Hall is no longer going to be continuing to do the washing from St. Andrew's. Her last load will be after the Plum Fayre. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Olive for all that she has done in keeping the dishcloths, tea-towels and table cloths in such good order for us. So, this leads me to ask if there is one or two people who would be willing to take this role on? Please contact me on 07443904635 or see me in person for further information. *Sam Andrews*

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

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 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.



PLEASE SEE OUR JULY & AUGUST BULLETIN FOR MORE NOTICES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire is on annual leave until Monday 18 August 2025

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*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 18 August

13:00 Funeral for the late

Stephanie Tarplee (*Pershore Abbey*)

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 (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 19 August

09:30 Arrival of Foodbank Staff

(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

14:00 Wedding Rehearsal Edward Hird and
Emma Greenop (*Pershore Abbey*)

Wednesday 20 August

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

11:00 Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre Lunch
Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

11:30 Wedding Photography (*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Funeral for the late Sheila Mash
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

18:00 Wedding Rehearsal Alex Davies and
Katrina Williams (*Pershore Abbey*)

Thursday 21 August

10:30 Private Abbey Tour (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Wedding Service for Edward Hird and
Emma Greenop (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Wedding Rehearsal for Henry Dean
and Florence Hardman (*St Mary's, Wick*)

Friday 22 August

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

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

14:00 Wedding Service for Alex Davis and
Katrina Williams (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bells - Roy Williams' Last Friday
Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 23 August

14:00 Wedding Service for Henry Dean and
Florence Hardman (*St Mary's, Wick*)

16:00 Plum Festival Set Up (*St Andrew's*)

Sunday 24 August - Trinity 10

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:00 Plum Festival Set Up (*St Andrew's*)

10:30 Morning Praise with LIVESTREAM
(*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

13:00 Plum Festival Set Up (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:15 Tedding Praise (*Bandstand in Abbey Park*)

15:00 Hymns and Pimms (*St James', Birlingham*)

