



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 31 August 2025
TRINITY 11

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

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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

Ecclesiasticus 10.12-18

A reading from the book Ecclesiasticus.

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely. The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place. The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place. The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth. He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth. Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

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

SECOND READING

Hebrews 13.1-8,15 16

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?' Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of

life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 14.1, 7-14

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place," and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through 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 569

PADERBORN

- 1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.
- 2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.
- 3 The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.
- 4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

[Bryn Rees (1911-1983)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 283

REGENT SQUARE

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
might and majesty divine!
He who framed the starry heavens
knows and names them as they shine. | 3 Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
spring to melt the snows of winter
till the waters flow again;
grass upon the mountain pastures,
golden valleys thick with grain. |
| 2 Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
Wounded souls his comfort know;
those who fear him find his mercies,
peace for pain and joy for woe;
humble hearts are high exalted,
human pride and power laid low. | 4 Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days;
love his laws, declare his judgements,
walk in all his words and ways;
he the Lord and we his children:
praise the Lord, all people, praise! |

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)]

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

[Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)]

COMMUNION HYMN**A&M 358****BE STILL**

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear:
in him no sin is found –
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.
2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned:
how awesome is the sight-
our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.
3. Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place:
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
no work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

[David Evans (b.1957)]

1 Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee
Lord of might.

2 Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us?
Yea, we can.

3 Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure
all combine.

4 In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest
psalmody.

5 Honour, glory, might, and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessèd Trinity.
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven
render thee.

[Francis Pott (1832-1909)]

Organ Voluntary: Passacaglia in d—Dietrich Buxtehude
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

31 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

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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.

Please pray for Bishop Hugh

*Gracious and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd,
you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church:*

we thank you for calling your servant Hugh to be Bishop of Worcester;

sustain him by your love, strengthen him in faith

encourage him in hope and grant him the needful gifts of grace;

*that through his ministry among us we may live and grow as Kingdom People
sharing faith, hope and love in Jesus' name.*

Amen

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST - SUNDAY 31 AUGUST 1030: Join us at the Abbey for our Benefice Sung Eucharist when we will be welcoming those from our other churches in the Benefice. All welcome.

ABBEY CHORAL EVENSONG 1700, 7 SEPTEMBER: After a well deserved summer break James and the Abbey Choir are back! This is a beautiful service full of heavenly music, which is a perfect way to end any Sunday.

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 FESTIVAL THANK YOU: A very big thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped with the - Classic Cars, Teddy activities in the Abbey, Tower Tours, St Andrew's Teas and bell ringing. Your help over the Plum Festival weekend was much appreciated. All the visitors seem to have had a really enjoyable time and this would not have been possible without your support. *Suzanne Clarke*



PLUM FESTIVAL THANK YOU FROM THE PASA TEAM: A very BIG thank you to all the wonderful Abbey cake makers who made the Plum Teas such a success on Monday, we could not do it without you. We had many compliments about your delicious cakes and despite the fact the dishwasher broke down everyone was still cheerful attacking the mountains of washing up! Your cake boxes will be by the tea urn at the back of the Abbey on Sunday for collection. Thank you *Sara, Hilary, Jane & the PASA team.*



NATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER: The National Week of Prayer (NWoP) is a nationwide invitation to pray, across churches, workplaces and communities, asking God to move powerfully across the UK. 2025's NWoP is taking place 6-14 September. For more information visit www.nationalweekofprayer.uk

PLEASE SEE OUR JULY & AUGUST BULLETIN FOR MORE NOTICES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 31 August - Trinity 11

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Benefice Sung Eucharist with

LIVESTREAM (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

16:30 Wedding Rehearsal for William Cameron &
Samantha Johns (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 01 September

09:00 Main Door Weather Stripping
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:00 Foodbank meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Funeral of the late Betty Dalley
(*Vale Crematorium*)

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

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)

14:00 Abbey Eco Church Trip - Fully Booked
(*Mucknell Abbey*)

Friday 05 September

10:00 U3A Walking Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bells - Surprise Major Practice
(*St Andrew's*)

Tuesday 02 September

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

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

14:00 Abbey Welcomers' Talk (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Wednesday 03 September

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

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

Thursday 04 September

09:00 Main Door Weather Stripping
(*Pershore Abbey*)

09:45 i-Sing Choir Rehearsals
(*St Andrew's Main*)

Saturday 06 September

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Sunday 07 September - Trinity 12

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas, Wick*)

14:00 Wedding Service for William Cameron
and Samantha Johns (*Pershore Abbey*)

16:00 Evensong Choir Practice
(*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

