



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 12 October 2025
TRINITY 17 / PRISONS' SUNDAY

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.

A warm welcome to our guest preacher for Prisons' Sunday
Matthew Farrow, Chaplain at HMP Eastwood Park, Gloucester

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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

2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c

A reading from the Second Book of the Kings

Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

So the king of Aram sent a letter to the king of Israel: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Make the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and

cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'?" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel."

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

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1.15-2.15

A reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

You are aware that all who are in Asia have turned away from me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chain; when he arrived in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me ?may the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! And you know very well how much service he rendered in Ephesus.

You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well. Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David? that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful? for he cannot deny himself.

Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 17.11-19

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and

Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to the Samaritan, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**If you would like to receive a gluten-free host during communion
please let a sidesperson know**

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 ABBEY & BENEFICE 12 OCTOBER 2025

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

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

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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@persoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on
01386 552071 and they will get back to you as soon as they can.**

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 559

RHUDDLAN

1 God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith —
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit's healing breath.

2 Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood,
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood —
move in us the power of pity
restless for the common good.

3 Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers
of whatever race or creed —
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.

[Shirley Erena Murray (b.1931)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 669

KINGSFOLD

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast':
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live':
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright':
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

[Horatius N. Bonar (1808-1889)]

1 Father, lord of all creation,
Ground of being, life and love;
Height and depth beyond description
Only life in you can prove:
You are mortal life's dependence:
Thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;-
Yours is every hour's existence,
Sovereign Lord of time and space.

2 Jesus Christ, the Man for others,
We, your people, make our prayer:
Help us love—as sisters, brothers-
All whose burdens we can share.
Where your name binds us together
You, Lord Christ, will surely be;
Where no selfishness can sever
There your love the world may see.

3 Holy Spirit, rushing, burning,
Wind and flame of Pentecost,
Fire our hearts afresh with yearning
To regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,
Never more to speak alone:
God, in us abolish faction,
God, through us your love make known.

[Stewart Cross (1928-1989)]

COMMUNION MOTET**View Me Lord — Lloyd**

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*1. View me, Lord, a work of thine;
Shall I then lie drowned in night?
Might thy grace in me but shine,
I should seem made all of light.*

*2. Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel
At thine altar, pure and white;
They that once thy mercies feel,
Gaze no more on earth's delight.*

*3. Worldly joys, like shadows, fade
When the heavenly light appears;
But the covenants thou hast made,
Endless, know nor days nor years.*

*4. In thy word, Lord, is my trust,
To thy mercies fast I fly.
Though I am but clay and dust,
Yet thy grace can lift me high.*

COMMUNION HYMN**A&M 557**

1 Beauty for brokenness,
Hope for despair,
Lord, in your suff'ring world,
This is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
Justice, joy, peace,
Sunrise to sunset,
Your kingdom increase.

Cont'd

*God of the poor,
Friend of the weak,
Give us compassion we pray,
Melt our cold hearts,
Let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love
From a spark to a flame.*

2 Shelter for fragile lives,
Cures for their ills,
Work for the craftsmen,
Trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed,
Rights for the weak,
Voices to plead the cause
Of those who can't speak.

4 Rest for the ravaged earth,
Oceans and streams,
Plundered and poisoned,
Our future, our dreams,
Lord, end our madness,
Carelessness, greed,
Make us content with
The things that we need.

3 Refuge from cruel wars,
Havens from fear,
Cities for sanctu'ry,
Freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields,
Scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness,
His cross for the pain.

5 Lighten our darkness,
Breathe on this flame,
Until your justice burns
Brightly again;
Until the nations
Learn of Your ways,
Seek Your salvation
And bring You their praise.

[Graham Kendrick (b.1950)
Arranged by John Barnard (b.1948)]

FINAL HYMN

A&M 818

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

1 To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! Great things he has done!*

- 2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God!
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.
- 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

[Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)]

Organ Voluntary: Toccata in f BWV 540—JS BACH

The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

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.

THE LATE EDDIE HOWELL: We were all saddened to learn of the death of Eddie. He was a faithful member of the Abbey congregation, along with his late wife, Sylvia, for many years. He was passionate about music so particularly supported James and the choir whenever he could. Eddie's funeral will be **1200 on 3 November** at the Abbey, to which everyone is warmly invited. May Eddie rest in peace. *Claire.*

WALKING CHURCH SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER: Join us at the West end of the Abbey at 1400, to enjoy a gentle stroll around the local park. Everyone is welcome, including our four legged friends. Refreshments will be provided in St Andrew's afterwards.

WELCOME SERVICE FOR BISHOP HUGH NELSON —17 JANUARY 2026: The service of welcome and installation for Hugh Nelson as our next Bishop of Worcester will be on Saturday 17 January, at 1400 in Worcester Cathedral.



NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY: On Friday 3 October, The Church of England announced The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. *Please see our October Monthly Bulletin to find out more about Bishop Sarah.*

A prayer for the Archbishop of Canterbury

*Almighty and everlasting God, the only worker of great marvels,
send down upon your servant Sarah, called to be Archbishop of Canterbury
and all who are committed to her care, the spirit of your saving grace,
and that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your
blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our advocate and mediator,
Jesus Christ. Amen.*

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire will be on Annual Leave on 13-19 October

Sunday 12 October - Trinity 17 / Prisons' Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

11:30 Harvest Festival (*St Mary's, Wick*)

14:00 Organ Recital (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 13 October

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

10:00 Autumn House Group (33 Abbeycroft)

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

19:00 Pershore Community Choir
(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Tuesday 14 October

09:30 Bells—VOE Peal (*St Andrew's*)

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

14:00 Autumn House Group (19 Acorn Grove)

14:30 Abbey Women's Fellowship
(*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Soundbath Mediation Event
(*St Andrew's Main*)

Wednesday 15 October

Abbey lit up Pink for Baby Loss Awareness week.

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

11:00 Lunch Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:30 Funeral Service for the late
Jessie Watts (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Thursday 16 October

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

19:00 Autumn House Group (41 Westcott Way)

Friday 17 October

09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Saturday 18 October

10:30 PASA Coffee Morning (*St Andrew's Main*)

16:00 Piano Tuning (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Memorial Concert for
Gordon Hartley-Bennet (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 19 October - Trinity 18

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

14:00 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)



www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

PLEASE SEE OUR OCTOBER MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR FURTHER NOTICES