



Welcome to Pershore Abbey

Sunday 29 March 2026 - Palm Sunday

This is your Service Sheet, Bulletin and Diary. Please use this sheet in conjunction with the service booklet provided. Large print copies are available from the welcomers.

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel: [Pershore Abbey Community](#)

If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden.

— Service Sheet —



First Hymn

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry:
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The wingèd squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The last and fiercest strife is nigh:
the Father on his sapphire throne
awaits his own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.



The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; 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

Isaiah 50.4-9a

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The servant of the Lord said: The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

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



Second Reading

Philippians 2.5-11

A reading from the Book of Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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



Gradual Hymn

There's a man riding in on a donkey,
there's a man and they say he's king!
And the palm leaves are waving a welcome
and the voices of the people sing:

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the king!*

Why a king riding in on a donkey?
Why a king wearing no fine crown?
Where the drums, where the high-sounding cymbals
if a king is riding into town?

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the king!*

Hear the voice of the King on a donkey!
Hear the joy of the news he brings!
He is Jesus, the Son of the Highest.
He is Jesus and the King of kings.

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the king!*

Ancient & Modern 163
Words: Paul Wigmore (1925-2014)
Tune: Sing Hosanna



The Gospel

Matthew 21.1-11

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will

send them immediately.’ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’

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



Prayers

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.



Third Hymn

My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.

O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?

He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.

But O, my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
yet they at these
themselves displease,
and 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heaven was his home;
but mine the tomb
wherein he lay.

Here might I stay and sing:
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.



Communion Motet

Ave Verum - WA Mozart - Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*Ave verum corpus, natum
de Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.*

*[O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie,
O Iesu, fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen]*

Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
from whose pierced side
water and blood flowed:
Be for us a sweet foretaste
in the trial of death!

[O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus,
O Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.]



Communion Hymn

Glory be to Jesus,
who, in bitter pains,
poured for me the life-blood
from his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find;
blest be his compassion
infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages
be the precious stream,
which from endless torments
did the world redeem.

Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries.

Oft as it is sprinkled
on our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
terror-struck departs.

Oft as earth exulting
wafts its praise on high,
angel-hosts rejoicing
make their glad reply.

Lift ye then your voices;
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious blood.

Ancient & Modern 142
Words: Edward Caswall (1814-1878)
Music: Friedrich Filitz
Tune: Caswall



Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**



Final Hymn

Meekness and majesty,
manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony
the Man who is God:
Lord of eternity
dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility
and washes our feet.

*Oh, what a mystery,
meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship,
for this is your God,
this is your God.*

Father's pure radiance,
perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience
to death on a cross.
Suffering to give us life,
conquering through sacrifice,
and as they crucify
prays: 'Father, forgive'.

Wisdom unsearchable,
God the invisible,
Love indestructible
in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity,
stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity
to the heights of his throne.

Ancient & Modern 728
Words: Graham Kendrick (b1950)



Organ Voluntary

Fantasia Super: Valet will ich dir Geben BWV 735 - JS Bach

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

— Bulletin —

Earth Hour: On Saturday 28 March the Abbey tower lights will be switched off between 2030-2130 in support of Earth Hour, a global environmental movement that encourages individuals, communities, and businesses to turn off non-essential lights for one hour to raise awareness about climate change and environmental degradation.

Benefice Sung Eucharist for Palm Sunday: Starting with a procession at 1000 from Abbey Park to the Abbey, meeting at St Andrew's Road/Abbey Road crossroads, join us for this special service at 1030 on Sunday 29 March when we gather as a Benefice.

Abbey APCM Meeting - Call for New PCC Members: The Abbey's APCM is on Tuesday 5 May. Everyone is welcome to attend. The meeting is when we elect and appoint officers - new volunteers who would like to serve as PCC members are always welcome. For more details, please contact the office via office@persshoreabbey.org.uk.

Revision of the Abbey's Electoral Roll: The revision of the Annual Electoral Roll must be completed before the APCM. If you would like to be added, please contact the office via office@persshoreabbey.org.uk for an application form or speak to our Electoral Roll Officer, Bill Newman for more details. Deadline for applications is 21 April. Thank you.

What do you think? You may have noticed, we have made a few changes to the layout of this publication. With guidance from various dementia and neurodiverse support groups, we have made changes that we hope will make it easier for everyone to follow and participate in our services. We would appreciate your feedback. Please either email office@persshoreabbey.org.uk or speak to me in person. Thank you. *Claire*

Thank You: To everyone who came and helped with the skyVac cleaning last week. Your help is very much appreciated and I hope everyone agrees that the Abbey looks much better for all of our efforts! Sam Andrews

Please see our Monthly Bulletin for further notices and information regarding Easter services and activities.

— **Keeping In Touch** —

Vicar

The Revd Canon Claire Lording - vicar@persshoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate

The Revd Jayne Parker - curate@persshoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens

Mrs Sam Andrews - 07443904635

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Pershore Abbey and Benefice Office

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01386 552071

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Open to the public 1100-1200 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

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If you have any concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden.

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

Following Church of England guidance, we do not allow the dipping of the host
or wafer in the chalice.

If you need any help in accessing any of the online features mentioned in this
publication, please do not hesitate to contact the office for support.

As part of our commitment to the care of the environment,
this publication is printed on recycled paper. Please take it home and
once you have finished with it, please recycle.



Pershore Benefice

STAINER'S CRUCIFIXION

with the Pershore Abbey Choir

Conductor: Paul Trepte Organist : James MacDowall-Scott



Ted Degrazia

Sunday 29 March

1700

Pershore Abbey - *Free Entry*

The Pershore Abbey Choir will be performing Stainer's Crucifixion this year as part of the reflections and meditations of Holy Week. This work presents a dramatic picture of the events leading up to the Crucifixion.

01386 552071

www.pershoreabbey.org.uk



Pershore Benefice Easter 2026

HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday 29 March

0800 BCP Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

1000 Palm Sunday Procession on Abbey Park to Abbey Meet at St Andrew's Road/Abbey Road crossroads. Come and join us singing and drumming to the Abbey.

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*) *with LIVESTREAM*

1700 Stainer's Crucifixion with the Pershore Abbey Choir (*Pershore Abbey*)

Monday in Holy Week 30 March

1900 Compline (*Zoom*) Please contact vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for a Zoom link

Tuesday In Holy Week 31 March

1900 Compline (*Zoom*) Please contact vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for a Zoom link

Wednesday in Holy Week 1 April

1900 Compline (*Zoom*) Please contact vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for a Zoom link

Maundy Thursday 2 April

2000 Eucharist of the Last Supper, Stripping of the Altars

and the Office of Tenebrae (*Pershore Abbey*) *with LIVESTREAM*

This service will be approximately one and three-quarter hours and will be followed by the Watch until Midnight. You are welcome to leave after the Office of Tenebrae.

Good Friday 3 April

1000-1415 Children's Activities (5-10 years) (*St Andrew's Centre*)

No fee - donations welcome. Booking essential via Suzanne Clarke 01386 553293.

1000 Good Friday Way of the Cross Walk Meeting outside Pershore Baptist Church, walking to Holy Redeemer and then to the Preaching Cross at Pershore Abbey. There will be a pause for the reflection and a simple act of worship at each point.

1400 Service of the Last Hour (*Pershore Abbey*) *with LIVESTREAM*

1445 Bredon Hill Service at the Folly please contact the Bredon Group for details of this service on acbhteam@gmail.com

Holy Saturday 4 April

1700 Evening Prayer with Short Easter Vigil (*Pershore Abbey*)

This service will last approximately one hour.

JOIN US IN CHURCH OR ONLINE THIS EASTER

PLEASE NOTE:

Our Daily Offices will also continue to be observed as usual

01386 552071

www.pershoreabbey.org.uk



— Diary —

Sunday 29 March - Palm Sunday

- 08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:00 Palm Sunday Procession (*St Andrew's Road and Abbey Road Crossroads*)
- 10:30 Benefice Sung Eucharist with LIVESTREAM (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 14:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 17:00 Stainer's Crucifixion (*Pershore Abbey*)

Monday of Holy Week 30 March

- 13:15 Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)
- 19:00 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 19:00 Pershore Community Choir (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 19:00 Compline on Zoom (*Zoom*)
- 19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday of Holy Week 31 March

- 09:30 Private Organ Lesson (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:15 Foodbank Staff Arrive (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 14:00 Funeral for the late Paul Scarott (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:00 Compline on Zoom (*Zoom*)

Wednesday of Holy Week 01 April

- 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 11:00 Lunch Club (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 14:00 Funeral for the late Paul Stuart (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)
- 15:45 V&W (*Vicars Vestry*)
- 19:00 Compline on Zoom (*Zoom*)
- 19:15 Play Rehearsal (*St Andrew's Main*)

Maundy Thursday 02 April

- 09:45 i-Sing Rehearsal (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)
- 18:00 Good Friday Activity Set Up (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 20:00 Eucharist of the Last Supper (*Pershore Abbey*)

Good Friday 03 April

- 10:00 Good Friday Activity Day (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 10:00 Good Friday Way of the Cross Walk (*Meeting outside Pershore Baptist Church, walking to Holy Redeemer and then to the Preaching Cross at Pershore Abbey*)
- 14:00 Service of the Last Hour (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 15:00 Bells Quarter Peal –Fully Muffled (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Holy Saturday 04 April

- 10:00 Installation of Easter Wreath Display (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 15:00 Dawn Eucharist Breakfast Set Up (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 17:00 Evening Prayer with Short Easter Vigil (*Pershore Abbey*)

Easter Day 05 April

- 06:00 Dawn Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:00 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)
- 09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Sung Eucharist with Fairtrade Stall and with LIVESTREAM (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Holy Communion (*St James', Birlingham*)
- 10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

Pershore Abbey Daily Offices

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

All are welcome to share in these services.

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