



The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick

Welcome to Pershore Abbey

Sunday 19 April 2026 - Easter 3

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: [Persshore Abbey Community](#)

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

— Service Sheet —



First Hymn

The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God;
from death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our God hath brought us over
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection-light;
and, listening to his accents,
may hear so calm and plain
his own 'All hail', and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful,
and earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord is risen,
our joy that hath no end.

Ancient & Modern 216

Words: St John of Damascus (c.675-c.750) Translated by: John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

Music: Germany melody, 18th Century

Tune: Ellacombe



The Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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

Acts 2.14a,36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

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



Second Reading

1 Peter 1.17-23

A reading from the First Letter to Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their

deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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



Gradual Hymn

*Alleulia, Alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleulia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth:
He is the king of creation:
*Alleulia, Alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleulia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen:
*Alleulia, Alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleulia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.*

We have been crucified with Christ:
Now we shall live forever:
*Alleulia, Alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleulia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.*

God has proclaimed the just reward:
Life for the world, alleluia:
Alleulia, Alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleulia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.

Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Saviour:
Alleulia, Alleluia,
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleulia, alleluia,
Give praise to his name.

Ancient & Modern 197
Words: Donald Fishel (b.1950)
Tune: Alleluia No.1



The Gospel

Luke 24.13-35

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening

and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -
they came with me and the Dance went on.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black -
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the Dance, and I still go on.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he:

Ancient & Modern 667
Words: Sydney Carter (1915-2004)
Tune: Lord of the Dance



Communion Motet

This Joyful Eastertide - Charles Wood - Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

This joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
Hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain,
Ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now hath Christ arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest,
And for a season slumber:
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood hath lost its chill,
Since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver.



Communion Hymn

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is none like You.
All of my days, I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am,
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing,
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands.
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the
promise I have in you.

Ancient & Modern 732
Words: Darlene Zschech (b.1965)



Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive
and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**



Final Hymn

We have a gospel to proclaim,
Good news for all throughout the earth;
The gospel of a Saviour's name;
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem
Not in a royal house or hall
But in a stable dark and dim,
The Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tel of his death at Calvary,
Hated by those he came to save,
In lonely suffering on the Cross;
For all he loved his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
Empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
That we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified.
He sends his Spirit on his Church
To live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

Ancient & Modern 507
Words: Edward Joseph Burns (b.1938)
Tune: Fulda



Organ Voluntary

Alleluias - Simon Preston

The Voluntary is dedicated in memory of the late Gwyneth Rimmer

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

— Bulletin —

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@pershoreabbey.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@pershoreabbey.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.

Abbey APCM Report: The Abbey APCM report is now available on our website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk If you would like a hardcopy, please order one via the Abbey Office.

Urban farmers in Kenya grow Hope: Micro-farming in the overcrowded city Nairobi is the focus of Christian Aid Week and the Pershore Abbey Iona Worship at 1700 on Sunday 26 April. There's a short video about this life changing project on the Christian Aid website <https://caw.christianaid.org.uk/> Whether you're familiar with Iona Worship or exploring for the first time, you are very welcome to this one hour service of worship, prayer, reflection and response. For more information or to join by zoom, please email Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

The distribution of the Abbey Link magazine: Due to retirements I'm afraid we need some more volunteer deliverers for the following streets:-

Bagshaw Court - 11 copies

Chase Mews - 7 copies

Old Market Court - 13 copies

Victoria Terrace - 10 copies

Worcester Road (Allesborough Hill) - 35 copies

And now that Phase 3 of the Persimmon Estate is almost complete we would also welcome volunteers to deliver the Abbey Link magazine to any of these phase 3 roads:-

Thistledown - 27 copies

Primrose Way - 13 copies

Elderberry Grove - 24 copies

Laxton Gardens - 14 copies

Emblem Close - 15 copies

Bramley Walk - 7 copies

Bowbrook Meadow - 23 copies

Jubileum Crescent - 11 copies

Czar Mews - 14 copies

Marjorie Fields - 12 copies

Blackberry Meadow - 25 copies

Damson End - 26 copies

Westcott Way (phase 3) -88 copies

If anyone feels they can lend a hand, 4 times a year, please contact the Abbey Office on 01386 552071 or Roger Piper on 01386 553110. Thank you.

Please see our Monthly Bulletin for further notices and information.

— Keeping In Touch —

Vicar

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

Assistant Curate

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

Abbey Wardens

Mrs Sam Andrews - 07443904635

Mr Martin Fowler - 01386 552243

Pershore Abbey and Benefice Office

11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB

01386 552071

office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

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

—

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.



ELGAR FESTIVAL 2026

RELAXED CONCERT WITH ESO WINDS

THURSDAY 21 MAY, 1430
PERSHORE ABBEY

An hour-long concert full of beautiful music as part of Dementia Action Week. These relaxed performances are particularly suited to those living with dementia and other similar health conditions, adults and children with additional learning needs, their carers and anybody who wishes to experience classical music in a relaxed and informal environment.

FREE



WITH
REFRESHMENTS
PROVIDED
BY PERSHORE
ROTARY



DEMENTIA
FRIENDLY
SERVICE

*Elgar for
Everyone*



TICKET HOTLINE  
WWW.ELGARFESTIVAL.ORG
WORCESTER THEATRES 01905 611427



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



— Diary —

Sunday 19 April

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

Monday 20 April

- 13:00 Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 14:00 Abbey Dementia Group
(*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)
- 19:00 Pershore Community Choir
(*St Andrew's Main*)
- 19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 21 April

- 10:15 Foodbank Staff Arrive
(*St Andrew's Main*)
- 11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 14:00 Abbey Mission Group
(*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 19:00 U3A Wine Appreciation Society
(*St Andrew's Main*)

Wednesday 22 April

- 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion
(*Pershore Abbey*)
- 12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 14:00 Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 14:00 Pershore U3A Bridge Group
(*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 15:45 V&W (*Vicars Vestry*)
- 19:15 Abbey Eco Church Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 19:15 Play Rehearsal (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 23 April

- 10:00 Private Organ Lesson (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 18:30 Scouts Parade Rehearsal
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 24 April

- 09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:30 Bells - Roy Williams' Last Friday
Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 25 April

- 09:00 Wedding Preparation Course
(*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:00 Visiting Bell Ringers (*St Andrew's*)

Sunday 26 April

- 08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Morning Praise with LIVESTREAM
(*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)
- 15:00 Scouts St George's Day Parade
Service (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)

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.