



Welcome to Pershore Abbey

Sunday 10 May 2026 - Easter 6 / Rogation Sunday / Christian Aid Focus

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

Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy-seat;
where'er they seek thee thou art found,
and every place is hallowed ground.

For thou, within no walls confined,
inhabitest the humble mind;
such ever bring thee when they come,
and, going, take thee to their home.

Dear Shepherd of thy chosen few,
thy former mercies here renew;
here to our waiting hearts proclaim
the sweetness of thy saving name.

Here may we prove the power of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heaven before our eyes.

Lord, we are few, but thou art near;
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear:
O rend the heavens, come quickly down,
and make a thousand hearts thine own!



The Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 17.22-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him - though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

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



Second Reading

1 Peter 3.13-22

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be

intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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



Gradual Hymn

Name of all majesty,
fathomless mystery,
King of the ages
by angels adored;
power and authority,
splendour and dignity,
bow to his mastery,
Jesus is Lord!

Child of our destiny,
God from eternity,
love of the Father
on sinners outpoured;
see now what God has done
sending his only Son,
Christ the beloved One,
Jesus is Lord!

Saviour of Calvary,
costliest victory,
darkness defeated
and Eden restored;
born as a man to die,
nailed to a cross on high,
cold in the grave to lie,
Jesus is Lord!

Source of all sovereignty,
light, immortality,
life everlasting
and heaven assured;
so with the ransomed, we
praise him eternally,
Christ in his majesty,
Jesus is Lord!

Ancient & Modern 736
Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)



The Gospel

John 14.15-21

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

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



Prayers

We pray for those who live in the midst of conflict today, praying for peace for all peoples and places. We also pray for the following members of our church family:

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, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

Ancient & Modern 494
Words: Daniel L. Schutte (b.1947)



Communion Motet

Ubi Caritas - Ola Gjeilo - Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur:
Ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus.
Cessent iurgia maligna, cessent lites.
Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Simul quoque cum beatis videamus,
Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus:
Gaudium quod est immensum, atque
probum, Saecula per infinita saeculorum.
Amen.*

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Love of Christ has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice in Him and be glad.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love one.
Where charity and love are, God is there.
At the same time, therefore, are gathered
into one:
Lest we be divided in mind, let us beware.
Let evil impulses stop, let controversy
cease. And in the midst of us be Christ our
God.
Where charity and love are, God is there.
At the same time we see that with the
saints also, Thy face in glory, O Christ our
God:
The joy that is immense and good, Unto
the World without end. Amen.*



Communion Hymn

You are the vine and we are the branches,
prune and make us bear more fruit.
We have been cleansed by the word you have spoken;
abide in us, and we in you.

You are the vine and we are the branches,
apart from you we are nothing at all.
Teach us to love as you have commanded;
Come to us now, abide in us.

You have commanded us to love one another,
there is no greater commandment than this.
No greater love has been shown to your people,
Than to lay down your life for us.

Ancient & Modern 472
Words: Gordon Giles (b.1966)
Music: John Barnard (b.1948)



Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**



Final Hymn

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Ancient & Modern 650
Words: Thomas O Chisholm (1866-1960)
Music: William M Runyan (1870-1957)



Organ Voluntary

The Trumpet Voluntary—John Stanley arr Henry Coleman

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

Pershore Benefice

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE



 Thursday 14 May
1900
PERSHORE ABBEY

We begin our **Thy Kingdom Come 2026** journey with a special Benefice Sung Eucharist, marking the moment Jesus ascended into heaven before his disciples.

Please join us in church - all welcome

Pershore Benefice

NOVENA OF PRAYER

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Come Holy Spirit

 Friday 15 May to
Sunday 24 May
1900
Zoom

Join us on Zoom during this special 'Novena' (a nine-day period of prayer) as we pray with others in the Benefice, and across the world, for the Holy Spirit to come.

If you would like to be part of this 10-15 minutes of prayer, please contact Claire on vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

— Bulletin —

Beryl Osborne: It was a great sadness to us all to hear that Beryl had died on 7 April. She was a faithful and cheerful attender at the Abbey and did everything she could to join the worship. There will be a service of thanksgiving for Beryl on 11 May at 1330 at the Abbey. Her family would be delighted for as many people to attend as possible as they know how much the Abbey meant to Beryl. Please remember Beryl's family and all those who mourn in your prayers. And may Beryl rest in peace. *Claire*

Christian Aid Coffee Morning - 0930-1130 Saturday 16 May St Andrew's Centre: Any donations of books for the 'Good Read Bookstall' and plants for the 'Plant Stall' along with any home produce, would be gratefully appreciated for the annual Christian Aid Coffee Morning. There will be a raffle on the day along with delicious refreshments. Please do come along and join us. Donations for the bookstall can be left at back of the Abbey. For other donations, or for more information about the event, please contact Sarah Thomson on 01386 561057. Thank you.

Penny Gordon: For the past couple of years Penny, who lives and worships in Wick, has been on the Diocesan Auxiliary Pathway. This has been a discernment process for those who feel called to ordained ministry in their own local context. Last week Penny attended a Bishop's Advisory Panel, which is a selection conference for candidates exploring ordained ministry. I am delighted to share that Penny was recommended for ordination! This is such good news for us all. It is likely that Penny will be ordained deacon at Michaelmas. We will share the details once we have them. Please pray for Penny and Mike as they prepare for this next step on the journey of faith. *Claire*

House Bible Study Groups: From the start of June and running for 4 weeks, there will be the opportunity to join a house group and continue to look in more depth at St Luke's Gospel. Sign up sheets at the back of the Abbey or contact me at vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk *Claire*

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.



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.

St James' Church, Birlingham

SPRING WALK AROUND BIRLINGHAM



SUNDAY 17 MAY
3.00PM

Meet at the War Memorial for a walk around Birlingham,
led by Canon Claire

Bring a dog, a friend, or both!

REFRESHMENTS AND A DOG BLESSING IN THE
CHURCH AFTER THE WALK

Pershore Abbey

ABBEY WALKING CHURCH



SATURDAY 23 MAY
14:00

Come and join this new way of being Church!

Meet at the West end of the Abbey. We will take a very gentle walk,
stopping every now and then to think about God and explore what
faith might mean.

Refreshments afterwards.

All welcome, including four legged companions.

01386 552071
www.pershoreabbey.org.uk



FUN AT THE ABBEY

Sunday 24 May

Outside the Abbey by the Wild Flower Meadow

Everyone is welcome to come along,
to the service, the games, or the picnic -
hopefully all three!

1030 Morning Praise Service in the Park

1130 Games - for all ages!

1200 Bring a picnic and enjoy being in the Park

**A chance to meet other families
and make new friends**

Organised by the
Pershore Abbey Community



The event will be held in the Abbey if the weather is not suitable for outdoor play!

St Mary's, Wick SERVICE OF EVENING PRAISE



TUESDAY 16 JUNE
1900

WICK CONFETTI FIELDS

By kind permission of Charles Hudson

A relaxed service suitable for families and followed by refreshments.

Entrance via Yock Lane only. Please follow Confetti Fields Service signs.

A large marquee and some seating will be available.

Please bring chairs if possible.

01386 5520710
nicholasgranger.stmarys@gmail.com



— Diary —

Sunday 10 May - Easter 6

Rogation Sunday/Christian Aid Focus

- 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*)
- 10:30 Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)
- 14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*St Mary's, Wick*)
- 17:00 Wholeness & Healing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Monday 11 May

- 09:30 Yoga Class (*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 10:00 U3A Ukelele Group (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 10:00 Birlingham APCM (*St James', Birlingham*)
- 13:00 Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:30 Memorial Service for the late Beryl Osborne (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 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*)
- 19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)
- 19:30 Wedding Rehearsal (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 12 May

- 09:30 Bells - Vale of Evesham Peals (*St Andrew's*)
- 10:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:15 Foodbank Staff Arrive (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 14:30 Abbey Women's Fellowship AGM (*St Andrew's Main*)

Wednesday 13 May

- 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 11:30 Private Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper & Main*)
- 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*)

Thursday 14 May - Ascension Day

- 09:30 Funeral for the late Dorothy Cresswell (*The Vale*)
- 09:45 iSing Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 11:00 Eucharist (*Roland Rutter Court*)
- 12:00 Wedding Rehearsal (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:00 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 15 May

- 09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:00 Wedding Service of Thomas Luker and Olivia White (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 17:00 Morning Coffee Set Up (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)
- 19:30 Bells - Pershore Development Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 16 May

- 10:30 Abbey Parish Coffee Morning (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:30 Wedding for Andrew Griffiths & Lisa Hemingway (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 17:30 Breakfast Set Up (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Sunday 17 May - Sunday after Ascension/ Demetia Action Week Focus

- Abbey will be lit blue for Shine a Light on NF Awareness Day
- 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*)
- 12:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 14:00 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 15:00 Spring Walk Around Birlingham (*St James', Birlingham*)
- 17:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)