



Welcome to Pershore Abbey

Sunday 17 May 2026 - Sunday after Ascension / Dementia Action Week

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Ancient & Modern 589
Words: Francis Pott (1832-1909)
Music: Edwin George Monk (1819-1900)
Descant by John Barnard (b.1948)



The Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



First Reading

Acts 1.6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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



Second Reading

1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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



Gradual Hymn

All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this our song shall ever be;
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,
if we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus, thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee, hour by hour;
none can move us from thy presence
while we trust thy love and power.

All for Jesus, at thine altar
thou wilt give us sweet content;
there, dear Lord, we shall receive thee
in the solemn sacrament.

All for Jesus, thou hast loved us;
all for Jesus, thou hast died;
all for Jesus, thou art with us;
all for Jesus crucified.

All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this the church's song must be,
till, at last, we all are gathered,
one in love and one in thee.

Ancient & Modern 421
Words: W. J. Sparrow-Simpson (1859-1952)



The Gospel

John 17.1-11

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

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

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.

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.

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.

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!

Ancient & Modern 283
Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)



Communion Motet

Let thy merciful ears - Mudd - Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord
Be open to the prayers of thy humble servants;
And that they may obtain their petitions
Make them to ask such things as shall please thee;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen



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

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Final Hymn

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!
(Amen, amen.)

Ancient & Modern 753

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

Music: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)



Organ Voluntary

Toccata in f BWV 540—JS Bach

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

— Bulletin —

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. Penny attended a Bishop's Advisory Panel and 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*

Iona Service - 1700 Sunday 24 May: The theme is 'So full of God is every creature' - taken from Meister Eckhart's wonder-filled and humble reflection on creation. There'll be times of quiet, music and, if you wish, a chance to put together a posy to take home or gift to someone. For further information or to request a zoom link for the service, please contact Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk Everyone is warmly welcome.

Knitted Bible Exhibition: Evesham Methodist Church will have an exhibition of knitted bible figures on display 21 May - 5 June. It will be well worth a visit. For more information see Sue Gooderham.

Please see our Monthly Bulletin for further notices and information.



Pershore Abbey

ORGAN RECITALS

Sunday 7 June

1400-1500

Featuring Piers Maxim from Malvern Priory

Saturday 11 July

1900-2100

Featuring James MacDowall-Scott

Sunday 12 July

1400-1500

*Featuring Marion Wilmann, Mezzo Soprano
and James MacDowall-Scott*

Sunday 26 July

1400-1500

Featuring Michael Jones

Admission: Free with retiring collection

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



BENEFACTIVE SUNG EUCCHARIST



SUNDAY 31 MAY
10:30

St James' Birlingham

Join us as we come together for this special Benefice service on Trinity Sunday.

ALL WELCOME

The only service at the Abbey this Sunday will be the 0800 Eucharist, which will be livestreamed.

01386 552071
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— Diary —

Sunday 17 May - Sunday after Ascension / Dementia Action Week

Abbey will be lit blue for Shine a Light on Neurofibromatosis 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*)

Monday 18 May

09:30 PASA Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

10:30 Friends of Madeline Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

11:00 Dementia Awareness Training (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 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 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 19 May

09:20 Foodbank Steering Group Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:15 Foodbank Staff Arrive (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

14:30 Severn & Wye John Betjeman Society (*St Andrew's Upper*)

15:30 Private Piano Lesson (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 U3A Wine Appreciation Society (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Abbey PCC Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Wednesday 20 May

10:00 Midweek Holy Communion and

Licensing of Revd Jayne Parker as Associate Priest (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Abbey Mission Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

14:00 Private Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Thursday 21 May

Abbey Tower lit Blue for Dementia Action Week

09:45 iSing Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:00 Private Organ Lesson (*Pershore Abbey*)

13:00 PASA Concert Refreshments (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:30 Relaxed Concert with English Sinfonia Orchestra (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Friday 22 May

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

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Saturday 23 May

14:00 Abbey Walking Church (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:00 Abbey Walking Church Refreshments (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Sunday 24 May - Pentecost

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Outdoor Morning Praise followed by

Games at 11:30 and Picnic at 12:00 (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

12:30 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:00 Wedding Rehearsal for James Swift and Vicki Brown (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

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.

— 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

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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.



www.pershoreabbey.org.uk