



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 01 December 2024
ADVENT 1 / CHRISTMAS TREE SUNDAY

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. To view, 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.



THE ADVENT WREATH

We have this Advent Wreath to remind us of the Coming of Jesus, the Light of the World.

**The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring,
round the berry bright candles,
and the white and shining King.**

We light this candle to remind us of God's people who in every age watch for his coming.

**And one for God's people,
In every age and day,
We are watching for his coming.
We believe and we obey.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33.14-16

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

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

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 9.3-13

A reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 21.25-36

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 45

VENI EMMANUEL

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:

4 O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:

3 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:

5 O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:

[John Mason Neale (1818-1866), *Music*: Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)
Harmonised by Noël Tredinnick (b.1949), descant by David Iliff (b.1939)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 28

MARCHING THROUGH GEORGIA

1. Come and see the shining hope that Christ's apostle saw;
On the earth confusion, but in heaven an open door,
Where the living creatures praise the Lamb for evermore:
Love has the victory forever!

*Amen, he comes! To bring his own reward!
Amen, praise God! For justice now restored;
Kingdoms of the world become the kingdom of the Lord:
Love has the victory forever!*

2. All the gifts you send us, Lord, are faithful, good and true;
Holiness and righteousness are shown in all you do:
Who can see your greatest Gift and fail to worship you?
Love has the victory forever!

3. Power and salvation all belong to God on high!
So the mighty multitudes of heaven make their cry,
Singing Alleluia! Where the echoes never die:
Love has the victory for ever!

[Christopher Idle (b1938)]

THIRD HYMN

A&M 40

1 Into the darkness of this world,
into the shadows of the night,
into this loveless place you came,
lightened our burden, eased our pain,
and made these hearts your home.
Into the darkness once again,
O come, Lord Jesus, come.

*Come with your love to make us whole.
Come with your light to lead us on,
driving the darkness far from our souls:
O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

2 Into the longing of our souls,
into these heavy hearts of stone,
shine on us now your piercing light,
order our lives and souls aright,
by grace and love unknown,
until in you our hearts unite –
O come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come with your love...

3 O Holy Child, Emmanuel,
Hope of the ages, God with us,
visit again this broken place,
till all the earth declare your praise
and your great mercies own.
Now let your love be born in us –
O come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come with your love...

*Come in your glory, take your place,
Jesus, the Name above all names,
we long to see you face to face:
O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

[Maggi Dawn (b.1959)]

COMMUNION MOTET

A Tender Shoot—Otto Goldschmidt

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,
turning our darkness into light.*

*This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.*

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 74

- 1 Like a candle flame,
Flickering small in our darkness,
Uncreated light shines through infant eyes.

*God is with us, alleluia,
Come to save us, alleluia*

- 2 Stars and angels sing,
Yet the earth sleeps in shadows;
Can this tiny spark set a world on fire?

- 3 Yet his light shall shine
From our lives, Spirit blazing,
As we touch the flame of his holy fire.

[Graham Hendrick (b.1950)]

FINAL HYMN

A&M 42

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see

*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

[Bernadette Farrell (b.1957)]

Voluntary: Wacht Auf, ruft uns die Stimme—JS Bach
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

01 DECEMBER 2024

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

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

Vicar: The Revd Canon Claire Lording

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The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

Alveston House, 11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB (01386) 552071

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

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT TODAY, PRAYING ESPECIALLY FOR ALL PEOPLES OF THE HOLY LAND. WE PRAY FOR LASTING PEACE.

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.

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.



Facebook: [#pershoreabbeycom](https://www.facebook.com/pershoreabbeycom) YouTube: [Pershore Abbey Community](https://www.youtube.com/PershoreAbbeyCommunity)
Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

23 NOVEMBER - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: Thank you so much for all the messages, cards and good wishes I received before my surgery on Thursday. All went really well and the staff at Kidderminster Hospital were simply amazing. I now have time to recover before I have five sessions of radiotherapy in a couple of months time. Please continue to pray for me, for all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*



CHRISTMAS TREE SUNDAY AT PERSHORE ABBEY: So many people enjoy the Christmas trees which decorate the Abbey. As you can imagine, the cost of them has increased. To help fund them, 01 December 2024 is Christmas Tree Sunday. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of our Abbey Christmas trees, there will be a labelled box at the back of the Abbey. Any donations will be gratefully received. Thank you. *Claire*

LIGHT IN OUR DARKNESS - SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER, 1700: Join us at St Andrew's Centre for this service of reflection with prayers for wholeness and healing. This is a service for people who would like to find some peace and quiet during this busy Christmas time.

DIOCESAN POSADA - WEDNESDAY 4

DECEMBER, 1030: The Diocese of Worcester has organised a 'posada' during Advent with Mary and Joseph travelling around churches in the diocese. Posada is the Spanish word for lodging or accommodation, so each stop on this journey is their lodging for the night, representing the lodging places Mary and Joseph stayed at on their way to Bethlehem. The Abbey has been chosen as one of those churches and we look forward to welcoming them. Children from local schools will be attending and all are welcome to this special occasion.

DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

APPEAL: The Abbey collections raised £170.10 to help support those affected by the conflict in the Middle East. *Sarah Thomson*

Pershore Abbey

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE



SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER
15:00
Pershore Abbey

Follow The Star
CALIT → BRIGHT

A wonderful chance to sing your favourite Advent Carols and to hear the Abbey Choir sing some beautiful anthems
Director of Music: James Macdowall Scott
This service will be livestreamed on our YouTube Channel
Pershore Abbey Community

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www.pershoreabbey.org.uk • office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

PLEASE SEE OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR MORE INFORMATION & OTHER NOTICES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 1 December - Advent Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Edible Nativity (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

10:30 Patronal Holy Communion (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

13:15 Breathworks Class (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:00 Advent Carol Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 2 December

09:30 Yoga Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

11:30 School Visit - Pershore High School
(*Pershore Abbey*)

14:30 U3A History Group (*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

19:00 Advent Compline (*Zoom*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 3 December

09:30 Arrival of Foodbank Staff (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

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

19:00 Vocal High Rehearsal (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Pinvin PCC (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

Wednesday 4 December

10:30 Diocesan Posada (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

11:30 Lunch Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 SAEC Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

15:45 V&W (*St Andrew's Upper*)

16:00 Pershore Town Choir Rehearsal
(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 5 December

09:30 Bowbrook School Christmas Rehearsal
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)

13:00 Bowbrook School Christmas Rehearsal
(*Pershore Abbey*)

14:15 Intercessory Prayer (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

1900 Bowbrook School Christmas Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 6 December

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

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

19:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Vocal High Winter Warmers Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Saturday 7 December

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

18:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Worcester Male Voice Choir Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 8 December - Advent 2

08:00 Eucharist (*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 Private Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:30 Wholeness & Healing Planning meeting
(*St Andrew's Main*)

17:00 Light in Our Darkness - a service of
reflection with prayers for wholeness
and healing (*St Andrew's Main*)