



MORNING PRAISE

PERSHORE ABBEY

Sunday, 26 January 2025

EPIPHANY 3

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. To find the recording visit www.youtube.com and search for

Pershore Abbey Community [Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube](#)

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.

Welcome and Introduction

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Hymn 60 *Iona Book* **Praise the Lord, the ground of goodness** **LAUS DEO**

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| <p>1 Praise the Lord, the ground of goodness, source of silence, sound and time, nourisher of fed and foodless, catalyst of sense and rhyme.</p> <p>2 Praise the Lord with city voices, pitched in concrete, sweat and steel, Let the thousand urban choices bias to what's right and real.</p> | <p>3 Praise the Lord as science advances, research deepens, knowledge grows. Let such progress serve, with gladness, every need God shall expose.</p> <p>4 Praise the Lord for honest pleasure: fond embrace, surprising news, soul-filled thought, creative treasure, skill to counsel or amuse.</p> |
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5 Praise the Lord as churches chorus-
Quaker-quiet, salvation-brassed,
Catholic, Orthodox—united,
showing oneness meant to last.

6 Praise the Lord, the world's Creator;
praise our host and guest, the Son;
praise the ever-roving Spirit,
pulse of life for everyone.

Known Unknowns (John L Bell & Graham Maule/Wild Goose Resource Group)

Please sit or kneel for the Prayers of Penitence

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation.
God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the day

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 569

The kingdom of God

PADERBORN

- 1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.
- 2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened instead of despair.

Cont'd

- 3 The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.
- 4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

Bryn Rees (1911-1983)

The Gospel – Luke 1.39-45

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Please stand for our Affirmation of Faith

We say together:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Please sit or kneel as we offer God our Prayers and Thanks. At the end of each prayer when you hear 'God of love' please respond 'hear our prayer'. We end by saying together The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn during which the collection will be taken:

Hymn 160

Make way, Make way

1 Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.

*Make way! Make way for the King of kings!
Make way! Make way and let His kingdom in!*

2 He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

3 And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.

4 We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods but him
their thrones must fall!

Thanksgiving and Blessing

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Go in the joy and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Voluntary: Trio Sonata in Eb- JS Bach

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

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PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY 26 JANUARY 2025

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

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker

Email: curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mrs Sam Andrews 07443904635 Mr Martin Fowler (01386) 552243

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.

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

19 JANUARY - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: Thank you everyone for your care and support as I got ready for my surgery which took place on 16 January. It all went smoothly and I am now doing my best to rest and recover. I shall be seeing my oncologist at the end of the month to confirm the details of my next stage of chemotherapy treatment. As ever, please continue to pray for me, for all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE DROP-IN, SATURDAY 25 JANUARY, 1000-1200: Come together at Pershore Town Hall for a reflective space, enjoy a coffee and a chat, and find out more about what Churches Together are doing in Pershore.



IONA SERVICE, SUNDAY 26 JANUARY, 1700: This month's Iona service is an opportunity to reflect on reconciliation and how restorative practices, a method used for dealing with conflict, could help. Emily Miller will be leading the service. She is a restorative practices practitioner and a spiritual director in the Worcester Diocese. Everyone is most welcome. If you're unable to join in the Abbey, please email Helen for a Zoom link: iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

BIBLE READING NOTES: If anyone would like daily Bible reading notes please speak to Graham or Sue Gooderham in person, on 01386 553930, or by email: suegooderham@btinternet.com. They cost £15.75 for the year and we need to order them early February. They begin in May. Thank you. *Sue Gooderham*

BIRLINGHAM BULB SUNDAY: A warm welcome awaits everyone at St James' Church, Birlingham, at 1500 on Sunday 9 February. Claire will be leading the service, supported by James MacDowall Scott, as the organist, and members of the Pershore Abbey Choir. Refreshments will be available in the Village Hall afterwards, with proceeds raised going towards the upkeep of the church. *Adrienne Woodward*

PERSHORE ABBEY AND ST ANDREW'S (PASA) SOCIAL EVENING: PASA will be hosting a U3A Ukulele and Fish & Chips Evening at 1830 on Saturday 1 February at St Andrew's Centre. Tickets are £12 and are available from Julie Newman (01386 640497) or any PASA member. Soft drinks available, or bring your own alternative. All welcome.



ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 26 January - Epiphany 3

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Morning Praise with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

14:30 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)

17:00 Iona Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 27 January

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

10:00 U3A Ukelele Group (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:00 Vale Fire & Security - Alarm Checks
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Abbey Welcomers' Get Together
(*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*)

Tuesday 28 January

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

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

14:30 Mothers' Union (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Wednesday 29 January

10:00 Mid Week Holy Communion
(*Pershore Abbey*)

10:00 Abbey Pastoral Group Meeting

11:00 V&W (*Vicar's Vestry*)

19:30 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 30 January

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

Friday 31 January

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 William's Last Quarter Peal
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Saturday 01 February

10:00 Bells - Peal (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:00 Event Preparation (*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 PASA's U3A Ukelele and Fish & Chips
Evening (*St Andrew's Main*)

Sunday 02 February—Candlemas

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

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

13:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

16:00 Evensong Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

