



MORNING PRAISE

PERSHORE ABBEY

Sunday, 23 February 2025

2 BEFORE LENT

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 754

O Worship the King

HANNOVER

- 1 O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.
- 2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

- 3 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.
- 4 Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.
- 5 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.
- 6 O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

[Robert Grant (1779-1838)]

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

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading: Psalm 65.4-end

Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple. By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples. Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 924 (Cahon)

Calm me Lord

Choir will sing 1st time through. Together we sing it 3 times

Calm me, Lord, as You calm the storm.

Still me, Lord, keep me from harm.

Let all the tumult within me cease.

Enfold me, Lord, in Your peace. *(repeat line on last time)*

[David Adam (b.1936)
Music by Margaret Rizza b.1929]]

The Gospel – Luke 8.22-25

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

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 623

Eternal Father, strong to save

MELITA

1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

3 O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
who bad'st its angry tumult cease,
and gavest light and life and peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

2 O Saviour whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

4 O Trinity of love and power,
our brethren shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them whereso' er they go:
and ever let there rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

[William Whiting (1825-1878)]

Thanksgiving and Blessing

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your holy word. May it be a lantern to our feet, a light to our paths, and a strength to our lives. Take us and use us to love and serve in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of your Son, 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: Toccata in seven- Rutter

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

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

23 FEBRUARY 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.

REVD CANON MARTIN COOMBS

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Martin, who many of you will remember as a former Vicar of Pershore. He died on Wednesday 29 January, in hospital, with his family at his side. Martin was Vicar here from 1977 until 1992, when he moved to the Diocese of Oxford. His life was one of faithful service and he was key to the churches ecumenical agreement in Pershore. His funeral will take place on **Friday 7 March** at 1430 at St Mary & St John Church, on the Cowley Road in Oxford. All are welcome to attend. We share our love and prayers with Margaret, Daniel, Anna and the rest of the family.

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

FEBRUARY - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: Thank you all for your continued prayers and good wishes. I have now started my post-surgery chemotherapy and am grateful that side effects seem to be minimal at the moment. I have had confirmation that my treatment should be finished by the end of June. Please continue to pray for me, for all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*

LIVING HOPE IN LENT: The Church of England's theme for Lent 2025 is Living Hope. Booklets with daily reflections, Bible readings and actions to put down roots of hope are available via their website ([Living Hope](#)) and there are a few hardcopies available from the Abbey Office priced £2.00 each.

IONA SERVICE SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY, 1700, PERSHORE ABBEY: Refugees is the focus of the next service. A volunteer from *Pershore Welcomes Refugees* will explain how recently arrived refugees are being supported in Pershore. Everyone is very welcome. If you would like to join by Zoom, please email iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBAY FLOWER GUILD AGM: The AGM will be held on Monday 3 March in St. Andrew's Main Hall at 1030. Enquiries and apologies to the Secretary, Mary Cope on 01386 554773.

PALM CROSSES NEEDED FOR ASH WEDNESDAY: Please leave your old palm crosses in the marked box at the back of Pershore Abbey, as we need to recreate the ash in the traditional way for this year's Ash Wednesday service on the 5 March at Pershore Abbey.

Pershore Benefice

ASH WEDNESDAY



Wednesday 5 March
0830 and 1930
Pershore Abbey

Joining a service on Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent. Everyone is invited to come forward and have a cross made out of ash marked on their forehead, as a sign of our penitence and God's forgiveness.

ALL WELCOME

The 1930 service will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel: [Pershore Abbey Community](#)



LENTEN APPEAL LAUNCH SHROVE TUESDAY 4 MARCH

PERSHORE BAPTIST CHURCH
PANCAKES AT 1230 FOLLOWED BY PRESENTATION



in aid of

Friends of the Holy Land is a non-political Christian Charity whose mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan - the part of the world that Christians call the Holy Land. The focus of their work is providing practical help directly to the most needy and vulnerable of our Christian brothers and sisters through a balance of funding immediate relief of emergency needs and practical small projects to help create a sustainable future in the Holy Land - most importantly to give them hope.

Their work is ecumenical. The beneficiaries of their work come from all Christian communities in the Holy Land. Their supporters in the UK come from all denominations of the Christian Faith and they have the blessing of church leaders in England, Wales and Scotland.



ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 23 February - 2 Before Lent

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*)

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

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

17:00 Iona Worship Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 24 February

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

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

10:30 FOM Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing
(*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*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

Tuesday 25 February

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*)

15:00 Abbey H&S Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Wednesday 26 February

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

11:30 Private Meeting (*Benefice Office*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Bring Your Own Craft & Chat
(*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 U3A Bridge Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

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

Thursday 27 February

10:00 We Buy Vintage Antiques & Valuation
Event (*St Andrew's Main*)

11:00 Funeral Service of the late
Dane Rolestone-Lowe (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:15 Visiting Bell Ringers (*St Andrew's*)

16:30 Visiting Bell Ringers (*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 28 February

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 Friday Quarter
Peal (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 01 March

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Sunday 02 March—Next before Lent

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 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

10:30 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

