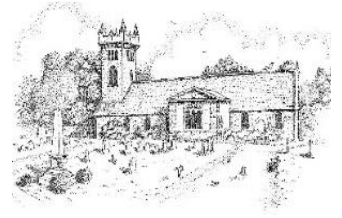




**The Abbey Church of
Scotland,
North Berwick
and Dirleton Kirk**



**Services led by Rev Geoff Berry
Pastoral Assistant: Robert Kane**

Sunday, 21st December 2025

**Today's Service Theme:
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9.30am Morning Worship, Dirleton Kirk
10.30am Morning Worship, Abbey Church**

**Welcome to all visitors today
To use the loop system, set hearing aids at 'T'
Dirleton Kirk is step-free. Step-free access to Abbey is to the left
of the front door, via the glass entrance on Church Road**

**Abbey Church Office (serving Abbey and Dirleton) is open
10am - 1pm, Tuesday to Friday: Church Office ☎892800
Website: abbeychurch.org.uk
email: abbeychurch@abbeychurch.co.uk
Church Administrator: Darren Barber**

Morning Worship, Dirleton Kirk

9.30am (to 10.20am)

Organist - Philip Boon

Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-16 & Matthew 1:18-25 read by John Lindsay

Candle Song (Words on the back page)

CH4 313 See amid the winter snow

CH4 324 Angels from the realms of glory

CH4 296 While shepherds watched

Followed by tea and coffee in the kirk hall

Morning Worship, Abbey Church

10.30am (to 11.30am)

Organist - Robert Burgon

Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-16 & Matthew 1:18-25 read by Kate Campbell

Candle Song (Words on the back page)

MP 588 See amid the winter snow

MP 114 Ding dong merrily on high

Offering Voluntary

Variation on "Mendelssohn" by Oliver Janes

MP 35 Angels from the realms of glory

MP 764 Whilst shepherds watched

Followed by tea and coffee in the kirk hall

Our Father, who art in heaven

hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, for ever. Amen

Church Diary

Sunday, 21st December 2025

9.30am Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

10.30am Morning Service, Abbey Church

Wednesday - Christmas Eve

4:30pm All Age Flashmob Nativity Service, Abbey Church

11:30pm Watchnight Service, Dirleton Kirk

Thursday - Christmas Day

10:30am Christmas Day Service, Abbey Church

Next Sunday, 28th December 2025

10.30am Joint Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

Abbey Giant Christmas Card

The giant Christmas card is available on the piano in Abbey Church from today until Christmas Day. Please take a moment to sign the card and make a donation for our Christmas charities- the East Lothian Foodbank and International Red Cross.

Abbey Church Greeting Cards

Christmas cards and blank greeting cards are available from the Church office. A pack of 5 cards is £3 or 10 cards for £5. Cash only please. All profits will be donated to Bethany Christian Trust.

Bethany Care Shelter

Donations of new warm socks, vests and underpants and trousers (particularly jeans) warm sweaters and jackets in good clean condition are urgently needed for homeless people. Also deodorant, shower gel, toothpaste and shaving foam. Please hand into the office.

Abbey Door Duty

Would you like to join the Abbey Door Duty team? At the moment you would be asked to be on the rota once in every 10 weeks. Volunteers are asked to be at church at 10:00am to welcome members. If you would like to offer your help, please speak to Sheila Burgon.

Words for lighting the Advent candle

We are a people of hope,
We are a people of hope,
Lighting a candle, we wait for the dawn;
We are a people of hope.

We are a people of peace,
We are a people of peace,
Lighting a candle, we work for the dawn;
We are a people of peace.

We are a people of joy,
We are a people of joy,
Lighting a candle, we watch for the dawn;
We are a people of joy.

We are a people of love,
We are a people of love,
Lighting a candle, we welcome the dawn;
We are a people of love.

Message from the Office

The Church office will be closed from 1pm on Wednesday the 24th December to 10am on the 8th of January. For non-pastoral emergencies during that time please call 079550 156990

I would also like to offer my gratitude to both congregations; it has been a pleasure coming to work for you this year. I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year. Darren

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, "Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test."

Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

He will be eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right,

but before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.