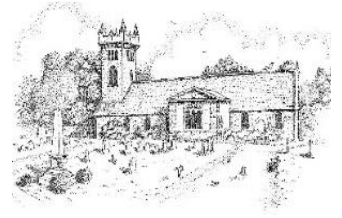




**The Abbey Church of
Scotland,
North Berwick
and Dirleton Kirk**



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

Sunday, 7th December 2025

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

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

**Welcome to all visitors today
Because of essential repairs to Dirleton Kirk tower, the main west
door is out of bounds. Access is only by the side (Archerfield
Aisle) door. Thanks for your co-operation.**

**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**

**Abbey Church of Scotland, North Berwick Scottish Charity - No SC004761
Dirleton Parish Church Scottish Charity - No SC004533**

Morning Worship, Dirleton Kirk

9.30am (to 10.20am)

Organist - Nancy Hughes

Scripture: Isaiah 11: 1-10 & Matthew 3: 1-12

read by Peter Keeling

CH4 277 Hark the glad sound

Advent candle song (words on rear page)

CH4 472 Come thou long expected Jesus

CH4 320 Joy to the world

Followed by tea and coffee in the kirk hall

Morning Worship, Abbey Church

10.30am (to 11.30am)

Organist - Robert Burgon

Scripture: Isaiah 11: 1-10 & Matthew 3: 1-12

read by Irene Brodie

MP 210 Hark the glad sound

Advent candle song

MP 590 Seek ye first

Offering Voluntary

Prelude on The Angel Gabriel from heaven came by Noel Rawsthorne

MP 842 Here is bread (split)

MP 393 Joy to the world

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, 7th December 2025

9.30am Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

10.30am Morning Service with Communion, Abbey Church

2.45pm Care Home Service, Fidra House

3.30pm Care Home Service, Astley House

Thursday

10.00am Little Nippers, Abbey Church

Friday

4.00pm Christmas Film Night, Abbey Sanctuary

Saturday

2.00pm Muddy Church, North Berwick Country Park

Next Sunday, 14th December 2025

9.30am Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

10.30am Morning Service, Abbey Church

6.00pm Annual Service Remembering Loved Ones, Abbey Church

Decorating Abbey Church

The flower ladies are meeting at 10.00 am on Friday 12th December to decorate the Church for Christmas.

Service Remembering Loved Ones

Our annual service at which we have an opportunity to remember loved ones who have died in recent years will take place in Abbey Church on Sunday 14 December 2025 at 6pm. All are welcome to this short reflective service which will be followed by tea, coffee and fellowship.

Muddy Church Treasure Hunt and Carols

Muddy Church will hold its annual Christmas Treasure Hunt and Carol Singing at North Berwick Country Park on Saturday 13 December 2025 from 2pm-3pm. All are invited to come, sing (and if you are young or young at heart) to play.

Carol Singing at Fidra House Nursing Home

The Manager of Fidra House has invited us to visit for a short period of carol singing on Monday 15 December 2025 starting at 6pm. ALL are welcome (whether you have PVG approval or not).

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.

Christmas Film Night

Following the success of our showing of *The Grinch* last year, the World Church Committee at Abbey Church invites you to a Christmas screening of *It's a Wonderful Life* on Friday 12th December. Doors open at 4.00pm, with the film starting at 4.10pm. Entry is free, with tea and coffee provided. Any donations received, will be accepted for Bethany Christian Trust, supporting people experiencing homelessness across Scotland.

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.

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child will put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the Jordan River. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptising, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."