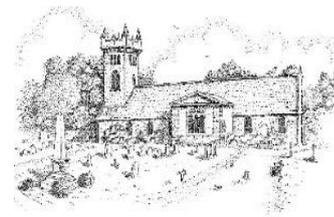




**The Abbey Church of
Scotland,
North Berwick
and Dirleton Kirk**



Services led by Rev Geoff Berry
Pastoral Assistant: Robert Kane

Sunday, 14th December 2025

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

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

Welcome to all visitors today

We are delighted to advise that the essential repairs to the Tower are now complete and the Archerfield Door in Dirleton will be open on Sunday, 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 - Marion Goodfellow

Scripture: Psalm 146 & Matthew 11:2-11 read by Shona Colins

Candle Song (Words on the back page)

CH4 314 Child in the manger

CH4 374 Servant king

CH4 301 Hark the herald angels sing

Followed by tea and coffee in the kirk hall

Morning Worship, Abbey Church

10.30am (to 11.30am)

Organist - Robert Burgon

Scripture: Psalm 146 & Matthew 11:2-11 read by Andrew Cobb

Candle Song (Words on the back page)

MP 71 Child in the manger

MP 242 Hosanna, hosanna

Offering Voluntary

Prelude on See amid the winter's snow by Christopher Tambling

MP 162 Servant king

MP 211 Hark the herald angels sing

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, 14th December 2025

9.30am Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

10.30am Morning Service, Abbey Church

6.00pm Annual Service Remembering Loved Ones, Abbey Church

Thursday

10.00am Little Nippers, Abbey Church

Next Sunday, 21st December 2025

9.30am Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

10.30am Morning Service, Abbey Church

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 this evening in Abbey Church, Sunday 14 December 2025 at 6pm. All are welcome to this short reflective service which will be followed by tea, coffee and fellowship.

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.

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.

Office Holiday Dates

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

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.

Psalm 146

Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—the Lord, who remains faithful for ever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

The Lord reigns for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord.

Matthew 11:2-11

When John, heard in prison, what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."

As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: "

'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.