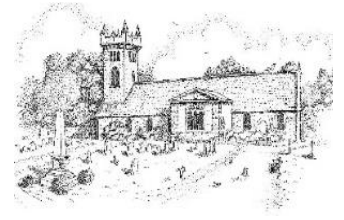




**The Abbey Church of  
Scotland,  
North Berwick  
and Dirleton Kirk**



**Minister: Rev Dr David J Graham  
Pastoral Assistant: Robert Kane**

**Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**

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

**10.30am Joint Nativity Service  
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 and Friday, remote working Wednesday and Thursday  
Church Office ☎892800 Website: [abbeychurch.org.uk](http://abbeychurch.org.uk)  
email: [abbeychurch@abbeychurch.co.uk](mailto:abbeychurch@abbeychurch.co.uk)  
Church Administrator: Paola Burrows**

**Morning Worship, Abbey Church**

**10.30am (to 11.30am)**

Organist - Robert Burgon

Scripture: **Luke 2:1-20** read by Kate Campbell

**GWA 90** We are a people of hope (vs 1-4)

**MP 211** Hark the herald angels sing

*Little donkey, little donkey, on the dusty road,*

*Got to keep on plodding onward*

*With your precious load.*

*Been a long time, little donkey,*

*Through the winters night.*

*Don't give up now little donkey,*

*Bethlehem's in sight*

*Ring out those bells tonight*

*Bethlehem, Bethlehem*

*Follow that little star tonight*

*Bethlehem, Bethlehem*

*Little donkey, little donkey, had a heavy day*

*Little donkey, carry Mary safely on her way*

*Little donkey, carry Mary safely on her way*

**MP 47** Away in a manger

**MP 503** O Little Town of Bethlehem

**GWA 99** Joy has dawned upon the world

*Offering Voluntary*

*Prelude on O Little Town of Bethlehem by Gordon Phillips*

**MP 491** O come, all you faithful

Doxology (t. Bunessan)

*May the One born in Bethlehem's manger,*

*Love you and give His own peace to you*

*May the One sought by wise men and shepherds*

*Fill you with joy as you seek Him too. Amen*

Followed by tea and coffee in the small 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 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.30am Joint Nativity Service, Abbey Church

### Tuesday

4.30pm Christmas Eve Service, Abbey Church

11.30pm Christmas Watchnight Service, Dirleton Kirk

### Christmas Day

10.30am Joint Christmas Day Service, Abbey Church

### Next Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December - Epiphany

10.30am Joint Morning Service, Dirleton Kirk

## **Christmas Offerings**

Please support our special Christmas offerings for 'Fresh Start' and the World Vision Middle East Humanitarian appeal. You can do this at the Christmas services, or our Giant Christmas Card in Abbey Church.

## **Christmas Services**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 10.30am, Joint Abbey/Dirleton Nativity Service, Abbey Church

24<sup>th</sup> December **Christmas Eve**, 4.30pm, All age Christmas Eve Service, Abbey Church.  
11.30pm, Watchnight Service, Dirleton Kirk

25<sup>th</sup> December **Christmas Day**, 10.30am, joint Abbey/Dirleton Christmas Day Service, Abbey Church

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am Joint Dirleton/Abbey Service, Dirleton Kirk

## **Church Office**

Please note that the Church office will be closed from 1pm on Christmas Eve, reopening on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

## Reading: Luke 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria). And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.