

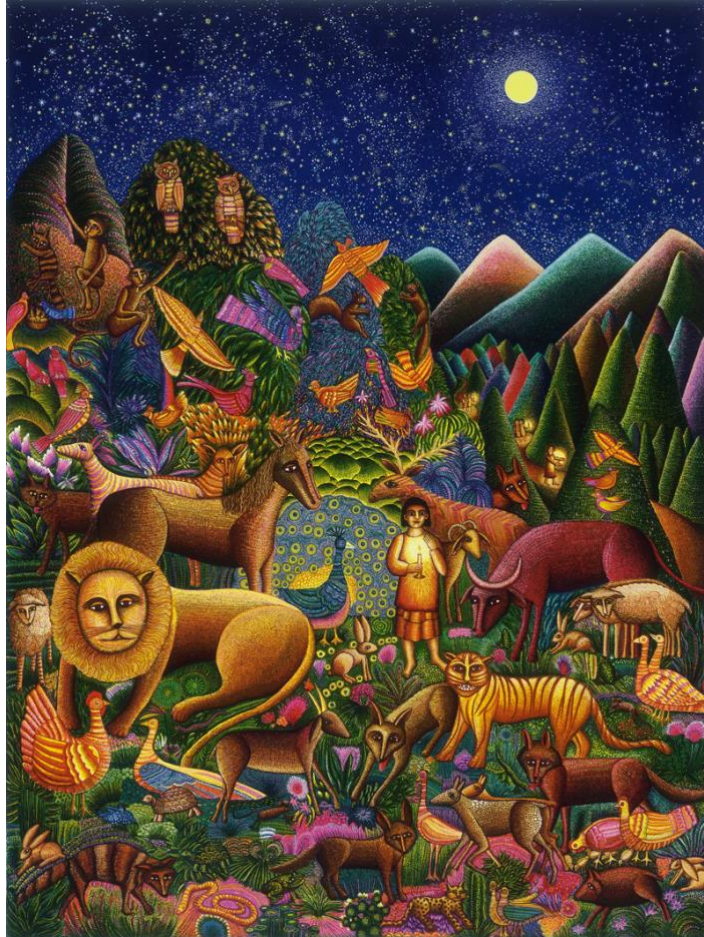


THE ABBEY CHURCH OF DUNFERMLINE

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2025 • 10.30AM

Founded in God's love. Serving at the heart of Dunfermline. Welcoming friend and stranger in worship and community.



Swanson, John August. Peaceable Kingdom, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**,
a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56556>

Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>.

Welcome to the Abbey Church of Dunfermline

We are pleased that you have joined us for worship either in the church building or in your own space.

- A card reader is available at the North Door for those who wish to donate by card.
- The service is streamed on YouTube. Please be aware that you may be caught on camera, although both cameras are focussed on the minister, choir, or reader, and those who are taking part in the service.
- Wherever there is **Bold print**, please be **Bold** and join in.

Preparation for Worship

...we would do well to listen to people who specialize in helping us prepare for the future as much as is humanly possible. Meteorologists can warn of hurricanes and yet some people stubbornly stay put, refusing even to board up their windows, only realizing their error when the winds begin to whip. Doctors can warn of the health risks of a high fat diet and smoking, but that doesn't change the behavior of many... Financial advisors warn us to plan for retirement and not live beyond our means, but still some people end up at age 65 with little savings to show for all those working years. It is quite easy to fly in the face of good advice and end up unprepared for a future event we were warned about.

Alyce McKenzie,

<https://www.patheos.com/progressive-christian/advice-how-not-prepare-alyce-mckenzie-12-03-2013>

Order of Worship

We welcome Dr Nicola Whyte as our preacher this morning

Prelude Largo, Allegro, Aria and Two Variations *Michael Festing*

Introit Oculi omnium (The eyes of all wait on you, O Lord)
Charles Wood

Call to Worship

A voice cries out in the wilderness

Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near!

A voice cries out in the wilderness

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
Make his paths straight.**

The righteous one is coming,

The Lord of peace approaches,

The Kingdom of God is at hand.

Let us ready our hearts and prepare the way.

Hymn No 472 (Stuttgart) *“Come, thou long-expected Jesus”*

Welcome & Intimations

The Advent Wreath and the Candle of Peace

Responsive Hymn No 288 (Conditor Alme) *“Creator of the stars of night”*
vv 1&2

Prayer of Approach & Confession

**Bearer of Justice,
who lifts up those crushed by their experience of the world,
hear our cries
as we recognise the pain we inflict
in words,
and with our inaction against cruelty to the vulnerable.
May Your tenderness,
fall like rain within our hearts
so that shoots of divine compassion and peace grow
in Christ’s name.
Amen.**

Time to Talk

Hymn No 257 (Vienen con Alegria) *“Singing, we gladly worship the Lord together”*

A reading from the Old Testament

Isaiah 11: 1-10
p650 (OT Section)

Anthem O thou, the central orb

Wood

A reading from the Gospels

Matthew 3: 1-12
p2 (NT Section)

Hymn No 334 (Winchester New (Crassellius)) *“On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”*

Sermon

Offering and Dedication

Offertory Folk Tune *Percy Whitlock*

This time offers a moment to reflect on the readings we have heard, but also the use of our gifts of time, talent and money in the world. The contactless giving was available on entry into the church, and for those who still wish to donate the offertory bags will be passed amongst the congregation. Donations can also be made on our website donation page, https://dunfermlineabbey.com/www/?page_id=10345. Or you can simply use your mobile and text LNBW01 to 70970 to give £5.

Hymn No 264 (Rhuddlan) *“Judge Eternal, throned in splendour”*

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, which 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever. Amen.**

Hymn No 291(Kingsfold) *“When out of poverty is born”*

Benediction

Choral Amen

Organ Postlude

Allegro maestoso from Organ Sonata No 1

Elgar

Church Copyright Licence Number 174928

PRS for Music Church Licence Number 1899697

Streaming Licence Number 1836610

Intimations

Services This Week:

Sunday 7 th December	3pm Blue Christmas
Sunday 14 th December	10.30am Morning Worship
	Includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Minister's Day Off: Thursday 11th December

The **Church Office** is open on 9.30am – 11.30am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Leeza Clark can be contacted either by phone, 01383 723005, or by email, dunfermline.abbey.church@gmail.com

This year's **Advent Study** will continue tomorrow, Monday 8th December, and on Monday 15th December at 7pm at St Leonard's Parish Church. We are exploring Gemma Simmonds' "Donkey Roads and Camel Treks: A Pilgrims Guide for Advent" – however **it is not** essential for participants to have read the book. Instead, it is something that can be enjoyed throughout Advent. For those who would like a copy of the book, it can be purchased on Amazon for £9.97, and there is a Kindle version.

The next **Heart for Art** run by CrossReach session is tomorrow, Monday 8th December. It also offers the Playlist for Life Help Point from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The Men's Walking Group meets on Tuesday 9th December at 10.30am. For details of the walk, please contact dunfermlineabbeymwg@gmail.com or 01383 727311.

The **Labour of Love** group meets from 2pm to 3.30pm on Wednesday 10th December in the church halls. All are welcome.

Concert: There are still a few tickets left for the HM Royal Marine Band Scotland's charity Christmas concert on Wednesday 10th December. The concert on 11th December has sold out. It takes place from 7.30-9pm, with doors opening at 6.45pm. Tickets, priced £20, are on sale from OnFife, Carnegie Hall box office and Sew Yarn Crafty. They can also be obtained from Brian Blanchflower and David Fraser.

Bereavement Support Group meets on Thursday 17th December from 11am to 12.30pm in the church hall. The group is open to anyone who has been bereaved, whether or not they are a member of the church. It offers an opportunity for mutual support over a cup of tea or coffee.

Abbey Angels: Abbey Elder Linda Pringle has been very busy over the last while, producing 200 beautiful hand knitted angels. These are now available to purchase as you leave church today, priced at £5 with all proceeds going to the Abbey Church, we hope you will consider supporting Linda in her fundraising effort. Each one comes in an organza bag with a card bearing a special Angel Blessing, and would make a lovely Christmas gift!

Instant Nativity: This year's Nativity, while still instant, takes a new form and MaryAnn really is looking for those willing to be an Angel, a Shepherd, a Sheep, and a Wise Person. Please be in touch with her, and a monologue script will be supplied. *Thank you to the Narrator, Star and Donkey who have already been in touch.*

Christmas Card deliveries: This year the 4th Dunfermline (Abbey) Co. Boys' Brigade with Girls Association will again be delivering Christmas Cards on behalf of members of the Abbey Church. We will be delivering cards to the following locations: Dunfermline, Crossgates, Townhill, Kingseat, Limekilns & Charlestown, Cairneyhill, Crossford, Wellwood and Dalgety Bay at the cost of 50p per card. Cards will be collected and sorted for delivery in the weeks leading up to 14th December when the final sort will take place to allow cards to be delivered before Christmas

Used Stamps: This is a little reminder to save used stamps. Boxes are on the table at the Church door and windowsill in the Church Halls. Proceeds from the sale of the stamps are donated to the World Mission project.

Intimations and church notices should be with in the office account by 9.30am on Wednesday.

Minister: The Revd Dr MaryAnn R Rennie, BD, MTh
01383 727311

MARennie@churchofscotland.org.uk

Master of the Music: Matthew Beetschen, BA,
FRCO, ARSCM

Assistant Organist: William Campbell, MA, LLCM

www.dunfermlineabbey.co.uk

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Scottish Charity No SC016883

Dunfermline Abbey is the known name of the Abbey
Church of Dunfermline



DUNFERMLINE ABBEY

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVENTS AND SERVICES 2025

Sunday 7th December

10.30am Morning Worship
Admission of New Members
3pm Blue Christmas Service

Saturday 13th December

11am - 4pm Carol Marathon

Sunday 14th December

10.30am Morning Worship
with the Sacrament of Holy
Communion

Sunday 21st December

10.30am Nativity Service
4pm Festival of Nine Lessons and
Carols

Monday 22nd December

7pm Carols at Crossford
Gather at the Keavil House Hotel

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday 24th December

4pm Christingle
11.30pm Watchnight

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday 25th December

10.30am Family Service

Some of the services will also be on-line at
www.youtube.com/c/DunfermlineAbbey

Photo used with permission from Billy George (Visit Dunfermline)



www.dunfermlineabbey.com
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(Church of Scotland)
Scottish Charity No SC016883

