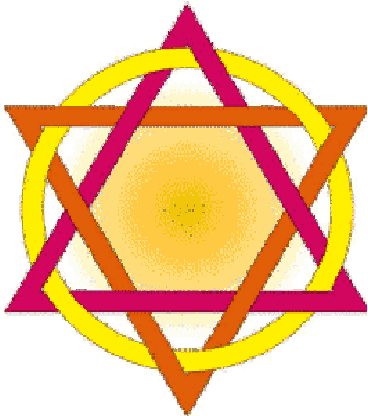


St. Mark's Church Bedford



Putnoe Heights Church is The Church of England
and the Methodist Church in Partnership

TRINITY



SUNDAY

Family Service 6 June 2004

WELCOME

We welcome to our service today especially
the family and friends of
Kayleigh Elizabeth Vesey Williams
who has been brought for baptism.

VERSE FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 8:1

O LORD , our Lord, how majestic is
your name in all the earth! You have
set your glory above the heavens.

(please join with the words in bold type)

Minister: Come close to God and he will come close to you.
The Lord our God is worthy to receive
glory and honour and power
for he has created and redeemed us.

All: **Heavenly Father, in our worship
help us to sing your praises,
confess our sins,
hear your word
and bring our prayers to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN

- 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
perfect in power, in love, and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

(Please remain standing)

Minister: Let us praise God

**All: Holy God
to you alone belong glory, honour and praise.
We join with the hosts of heaven as we worship.
You alone are worthy of adoration from every mouth,
and every tongue shall sing your praise.
You create the earth by your power;
you save the human race in your mercy,
and renew it through your grace.
To you, loving God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, blessed Trinity
be all glory, honour and praise
now and forever. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION
AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

(Please sit)

Minister: God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer. Let us confess our sins

**All: Loving God,
we have sinned against you
in what we have thought, said and done.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry
and turn away from what is wrong.
Forgive us for the sake of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silence

Minister:
Almighty God who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal

All: Amen. Thanks be to God

THE OFFERING

*After the offering is collected it is to be brought forward.
The people stand as it is presented and say*

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

Gift Aid Thank you to those people who have made their offering to the church by standing order. If you are a tax payer please use envelopes or a standing order, so that we can claim the tax back. Envelopes are available each Sunday in church.

SECOND HYMN

(The following two hymns will each be sung twice)

1. Father God, I wonder how I managed to exist
Without the knowledge of Your parenthood and Your loving care.
But now I am Your child, I am adopted in Your family,
And I can never be alone,
'Cause Father God, You're there beside me.

I will sing Your praises,
I will sing Your praises,
I will sing Your praises,
Forever more.
I will sing Your praises,
I will sing Your praises,
I will sing Your praises,
Forever more.

2. King of kings and Lord of lords,
Glory, hallelujah!
King of kings and Lord of lords,
Glory, hallelujah!
Jesus, Prince of Peace,
Glory, hallelujah!
Jesus, Prince of Peace,
Glory, hallelujah!

THE BAPTISM

We bring *these children* whom God has entrusted to us and claim for *them* all that Christ has won for us. Christ loves *them* and is ready to receive *them* with the arms of his mercy and to give *them* the blessing of eternal life. Children are brought to be baptized with water as a sign of the new life in Christ and to be made members of God's family the Church.

THE WATER IS BLESSED

Almighty God whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the River Jordan: we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse and revive us. Bless this water that your *servants* who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Send your Holy Spirit upon *them* to bring *them* to new birth in the family of your Church, and raise *them* with Christ to full and eternal life. For all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE PROMISES OF THE CHURCH

Congregation, please stand

Members of the Body of Christ, who are now in his name to receive *these children*, will you so maintain the common life of worship and service that *they* and all children in this church may grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord?

With God's help, we will

Congregation say

Heavenly Father, in your love you have called us to know you, led us to trust you, and bound our life with yours. Surround *these children* with your love; protect *them* from evil; fill *them* with your Holy Spirit and receive *them* into the family of your church; that *they* may walk with us in the way of Christ and grow in the knowledge of your love. Amen.

THE PROMISES OF PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

Parents and godparents of the children will be invited to gather around the font individually as directed. Please bring with you your service sheets.

The minister says to the parents and godparents

Those who bring children to be baptized must affirm their allegiance to Christ and their rejection of all that is evil. It is your duty to bring up this child to fight against evil and to follow Christ. Therefore I ask these questions which you must answer for yourselves and for this child.

Minister

Do you turn to Christ?

Parents and godparents

I turn to Christ

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil

The Minister says to the parents:

Do you then present your child to be baptized?

Parents please respond

We do

The Minister takes the child to be baptised and says:

(Name) I baptize you in the name of the Father,

and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

I sign with the cross, the sign of Christ.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

The minister will invite the congregation to say:

Fight valiantly under the banner of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and continue his faithful soldier and servant to the end of your life.

THE GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

The parents and children who have been baptised gather together and a lighted candle is given to each child. The minister says,

Receive this light...this is to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

The congregation will be invited to respond:

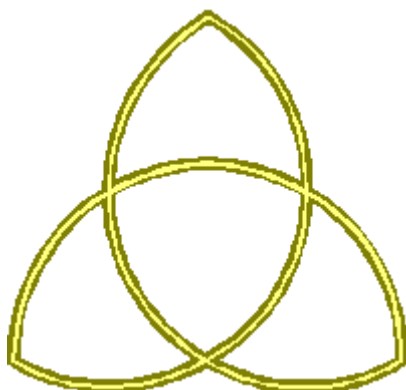
**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

THE WELCOME

Representing the whole Church we all welcome the newly baptized children.

Minister: God has received you by baptism into his Church.

All say: **We welcome you into the Lord's family.
We are members together of the Body of Christ:
We are children of the same heavenly Father:
We are inheritors together of the Kingdom of God.
We welcome you.**



THE COLLECT PRAYER & BIBLE READINGS

You may follow the bible readings on the Bible Notes

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Proverbs Chapter 8:1-4, Romans Chapter 5:1-5
& John Chapter 16:12-15

HYMN

Thine be the glory, risen conquering son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay:

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

Tune: Maccabaeus

THE SERMON

The Reverend Charles Royden

CREED

Minister: Do you believe in God?
**I believe in God the Father
who made me and all the world.**

Minister: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
who came to this earth to be my Saviour.
he died for my sins on the cross,
rose again from the dead,
ascended to the Father in heaven
and will come again in his glory
as the judge of all people**

Minister: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
whom God gives to all who trust in Christ.
He makes me more like Jesus,
guides and strengthens me in my daily life,
and helps me to serve God
in the family of the Church**

Symbols
of the Trinity



HYMN

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

- 2 All within that holy city
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
sing, in perfect harmony;
God the One-in-Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

- 3 We as living stones implore you:
Come among us, Lord, today!
with your gracious loving-kindness
hear your children as we pray;
and the fulness of your blessing
in our fellowship display.

- 4 Here entrust to all your servants
what we long from you to gain -
that on earth and in the heavens
we one people shall remain,
till united in your glory
evermore with you we reign.

- 5 Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One:
one in power and one in glory
while eternal ages run.

Tune: Westminster Abbey – Purcell

PRAYERS

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

- 1 God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble,
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

- 2 There is a flowing river
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her-
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

- 3 Come, see the works of our maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful:
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
uplift him in the nations-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Tune: Dambusters March

THE BLESSING

**May the love of the Lord Jesus
draw us to himself;
May the power of the Lord Jesus
strengthen us in his service;
May the joy of the Lord Jesus
fill our souls.**

Minister: God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and
peace; and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father,
the Son
and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always.
Amen.

*Thank you to all those who have helped prepare our
churches or helped us in our worship this morning*

