



TRINITY CHURCH
(Methodist & United Reformed)
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'Serving God, serving each other, serving community'

Minister: **Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson MBE**

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Sunday 26 July 2026
10.30am Morning Worship
& Baptism

led by Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson

Baptism of Aran Ben Townsend Radia

Church Stewards on duty: Neil Oastler & Judith Payne

Organist: Chris Greenough

Audio – Visual Team: Adam Hagar & Ntwana Msonthi

A special welcome to any visitors joining us today

There is an **Open Prayer Book** in the Welcome Area for you to enter the name of any situation or person you wish to remember during the service.

There is also a **Prayer Box** for requests which, for any reason, need to remain confidential, and each individual will be prayed for by name later in the week, and in confidence, by the Prayer Group.

Our **Junior Church** will not be meeting today. Visiting children are very welcome to use the Junior Church resources in the North Transept, or to take advantage of the toys and activities in the Welcome Area.

With thanks to Heather Townsend for the **flowers**

You are very welcome to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea after today's service thanks to today's **Coffee Rota volunteers**: Rebecca & Ian Brawn

Welcome

A Time of Quiet

Call to Worship & Gathering Prayer

Beloved in Christ, we gather today mindful of God's creation,
where every breath of wind and every living being
reminds us of God's compassion and presence.

**We come remembering that from the tiniest baby to the oldest person,
we are each a part of God's creation.**

We are children of God and loved by God.

Let us set aside the burdens we carry.
Open our hearts to the God who teaches us to listen
to the voice of the Spirit calling us into new life.

We open our hearts to you, O God.

God of mercy and peace, you invite us to worship.

We come to meet Jesus

and the Spirit of the living God is here with us.

With all creation, we lift our hearts to you in praise.

Amen.

 **Praise my soul the king of heaven**

StF 83

Opening Prayers

 **Seek ye first the kingdom of God**

StF 254

Offertory Prayer

Generous God,
from your hands we have received everything we have.
Accept the gifts we bring today,
signs of our gratitude and our desire to serve you.
Like small seeds, may they grow in your grace
to bless our neighbours and to strengthen your church.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Reading

Matthew 13: 31-33; 44-52

This is the word of the Lord
Reader

Thanks be to God
Lynnette Seymour- Jackson

Sermon

 **On this Baptism day**

StF 539



The Baptism of Aran Ben Townsend Radia

Born: 12 January 2026

Parents: Anna Townsend and Bhaveet Radia

Godparents: Mark Townsend, Chandni Radia

The Declaration

Sisters and brothers,
Baptism is a gift of God.

It declares to each of us the love and grace of God.

In this sacrament we celebrate the life of Christ laid down for us,
the Holy Spirit poured out on us, and the living water offered to us.
God claims and cleanses us, rescues us from sin, and raises us to new life.

He plants us into the Church of Christ
and sustains and strengthens us with the power of the Spirit.

Although we do not deserve these gifts of grace, or fully understand them,
God offers them to all, and, through Christ, invites us to respond.

We recall the words of the risen Christ:

‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

On the day of Pentecost, Peter preached the Gospel of Christ’s resurrection.
Those who heard the message asked what they should do. Peter told them:

‘Repent, and be baptized, every one of you,
in the name of Jesus Christ
so that your sins may be forgiven;
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away,
everyone whom the Lord our God calls.’

Anna and Bhaveet having heard these things, how do you respond to the offer
of God’s grace?

We thank God, and ask that our child be baptized.

The Thanksgiving over the water

as you are able please stand

Gracious God, we thank you for your gifts of water and the Holy Spirit,
for your sustaining, cleansing, and life-giving power.

From the beginning your grace has been made known
through water and the Spirit.

Your Spirit moved over the waters at creation
and you led your people to freedom through a parted sea.
In the fullness of time you sent Jesus.

He was baptized in the waters of the Jordan
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

He passed through the deep waters of death and lives for evermore.
He offers living water and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit that the one baptized in this water
may die to sin, be raised with Christ,
and be born to new life in the family of your Church.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Affirmation of Faith

To the parents & godparents

Do you turn away from evil and all that denies God?

By the grace of God, I do.

Do you turn to God, trusting in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour,
and in the Holy Spirit as Helper and Guide?

By the grace of God, I do.

To the congregation

We say together:

**We believe in God the Father,
who made the world.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, his Son,
who redeemed humankind.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God.**

The Baptism

Aran

for you Jesus Christ came into the world;
for you he lived and showed God's love;
for you he suffered death on the Cross;
for you he triumphed over death, rising to newness of life;
for you he prays at God's right hand:
all this for you, before you could know anything of it.

In your Baptism, the word of Scripture is fulfilled:
'We love, because God first loved us.'

I baptize you
in the Name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

By Baptism, God has received you into the Church.

Aran, I sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ.

Please sit

Aran receives the Light of Christ

Aran, receive this light,
for you belong to Christ, the Light of the world.
Christ is your Light and your Way.

**May you grow and live in the faith of Christ.
Amen.**

**The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord look on you with kindness
and give you peace.
Amen.**



He's got the whole world in his hand

(StF 536
pl note verse 4)

He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got little baby Aran in his hand.
He's got little baby Aran in his hand.
He's got little baby Aran in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

African-American traditional song

The Baptismal Promises

The parents and godparents stand.

To the parents

I ask you now to respond to God's love and grace to your children by making these promises.

Will you love this your child,
committing yourselves to care for him in body, mind and spirit?

With God's help we will.

Will you, therefore,
ensure that he is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

With God's help we will.

Will you set before him a Christian example,
that through your prayers, words and deeds,
he may learn the way of Christ?

With God's help we will.

To the Godparents

Will you help these parents
to nurture their children in the Christian faith?

With God's help we will.

The Promise of the People

as you are able please stand

Members of the body of Christ, we rejoice that this our brother has been baptized.

Will you so maintain the Church's life of worship and service that he 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.

Let us pray.

**Generous God,
touch us again with the fire of your Spirit
and renew in us all the grace of our Baptism;
that we may profess the one true faith
and live in love and unity
with all who are baptized into Christ.
Amen.**

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 them that 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**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

 **Lord of all hopefulness**

StF 526

Sending out Prayer and Blessing

Next Week 2 August - no Service at Trinity

BUT

All are invited to a joint

**All Saints / Peachcroft Christian Centre / Trinity Service
at All Saints, Appleford Drive at 10:30am led by Revd David Masters**

**This will be an intergenerational / inclusive Service
followed by a Picnic on the lawn
– please bring a packed lunch and camping chairs (if wanted)**