



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

10 December 2017

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Isaiah 40:1-11 (NIV)

Comfort for God's People

40 Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the LORD;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶ A voice says, "Cry out."

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the LORD blows on them.
Surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever."

⁹ You who bring good news to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.

You who bring good news to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

¹⁰ See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power,
and he rules with a mighty arm.

See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.

¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 (NIV)

¹ You, LORD, showed favor to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins.

⁸ I will listen to what God the LORD says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful
servants—
but let them not turn to folly.

⁹ Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

¹¹ Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.

¹² The LORD will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.

¹³ Righteousness goes before him
and prepares the way for his steps.

2 Peter 3:8-15a (NIV)

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the
Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand
years are like a day.

⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some
understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not
wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to
repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The
heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be
destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it
will be laid bare.

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what
kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy
and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God
and speed its coming. That day will bring about the
destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will
melt in the heat.

¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward
to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness
dwells.

¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to
this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless
and at peace with him.

¹⁵ Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation.

Christmas 2017 with Peel Valley Congregation Carol Service



15 December 7pm Hallsville ~ Margaret Crowell

17 December 8.30am Gowrie ~ Evelyn Keane

Peel Valley Congregation Service & Christmas Lunch

17 December 11am Hallsville ~ Rev Chris Wright
(Bus to Hallsville ~ Southview-Edinburgh Street at 10:00am,
West Church at 10:15, and St. Andrews Village at 10:30)

Christmas Eve Service

24 December 11 am West ~ Meg Mangan

Christmas Day Service 25 December 9am Hallsville

"May you never forget what is worth remembering,
Or remember what is best forgotten."

Peel Valley Congregation is in recess from the
31 December 2017 resuming for 2018
at Hallsville with our traditional

Gospel Music Breakfast

21 January 2018 All Welcome.



..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for healing for our world this Christmas season.
- We pray for our members who are not well enough to attend church at the moment.
- We pray for the Emmaus Walks which are taking place in Papua-New Guinea this weekend. Patrick is assisting with these Walks.

Meg's Musings

Another Christmas is fast approaching. People have begun asking, "What are you doing for Christmas?"

What they usually mean, is "Are you having Christmas in Tamworth, or are you travelling somewhere else?"

No matter how we frame the questions, they seem to always skirt around the heart of the matter - that Christmas is the celebration of God entering the world in the human form of Jesus.

The world chooses to make Christmas about purchased gifts, special foods, drinking too much alcohol and spending too much money.

When is the world going to come to terms with a God who loves us so unreservedly?

If only people would recognise that love, and accept it! The world would then be able to welcome the "Peace on Earth" which the angels proclaimed to the shepherds.



Blessings from Meg

**"May the Blessings of Christmas be with you,
May the Christ Child light your way,
May God's holy angels guide you,
And keep you safe each day."**

~Irish Blessing



Grandma, I wonder where you keep your wings.
Are they hung in your closet with the rest of your things?
Do you put them away and just use them at night.
I know you have wings, for this must be true,
'cause God always gives them to Angels just like you.

~ Ricky R. Hernandez

PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

Our goal: "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Pastoral Care: **Meg Mangan 0466 337 005**

Elders: Margaret Crowell Barbara Murray
Doss Wark Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ²as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way" —

³"a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

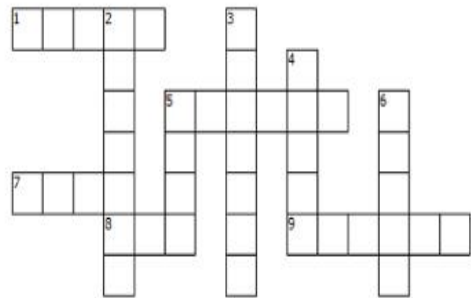
⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Baptism of Jesus

As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:10-11

Based on Mark 1:4-11 (NIV)



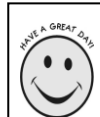
ACROSS

1. What was heard when Jesus was baptized.
5. The river where Jesus was baptized.
7. The Spirit came down from heaven like a ____.
8. To break one of God's commandments.
9. To turn away from sin.

DOWN

2. To admit that you have done wrong.
3. To pardon for sins.
4. The liquid used to baptize someone.
5. Name of the man who baptized Jesus.
6. A sticky, sweet fluid made by bees.

Christmas is the keeping place for memories of our innocence. ~ Joan Mills



1st Sunday of the month

~ Luncheon @ West

3rd Sunday of the month

~Trading Table @ West Tamworth

4th Sunday of the month

~ Markets @ Hallsville

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