



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

12 April 2020

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Matthew 28:1-10 (NIV)

Jesus Has Risen

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.

⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.



⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples:

'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

⁸ So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Matthew 28:1-10

One of the key figures in this reading is an angel. Yet we rarely associate an angel with the Easter story.

The angel, a figure in dazzling white, came down to earth, and rolled away the stone sealing the grave, and then sat on it. It was not to let Jesus out. Jesus had already risen, and was free of the tomb.

The guards, all men, were completely stunned - either by the earthquake, or the sight of the angel. The women managed somewhat better! Let's imagine the scene from the perspective of the angel.

The first thing said to the women is "Don't be afraid!" Every messenger of God is taught to put people at ease, and to tell them that there is nothing to fear. These humans are such an easily frightened lot, especially when circumstances are so different to normal. No one ever expects an angel to show up to deliver a message to them! And this was certainly an out of the ordinary situation and message.

The words did little good, as the women were clearly terrified by the angel's presence, and bewildered by the words spoken. They just couldn't take it all in. "Go and tell the others", the angel instructed them. He was pretty sure that they were totally unaware that they were being deputised as messengers of God. Their message, the angel's message, God's message, would prove to be just as frightening and confusing to the men as the message was for the women.

"He has gone ahead of you", he told them. Actually, Jesus had been ahead of them all along during their three years together, and He would continue to precede them wherever they travelled. Jesus is also ahead of each and every one of us who continue to follow Jesus... wherever we go, and whatever we face. ~ Meg

Jesus Has Risen

Jesus has risen,
Jesus, our friend.
Joy fills our hearts;
He lives again.
Praises we sing to him,
This Easter-time.
Jesus has risen,
Savoir divine.
Jesus has risen,
Savoir divine! ~ 35395, Children's Songbook



Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Mundy Thursday John 13 :17,

Good Friday John 18-19

Easter Saturday Lamentations : 1-, 19-24.

Every moment is a fresh beginning. - T.S Eliot

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for
- We pray for Beth's daughter Tina, who has a range of ongoing health issues.
- We continue to pray for Shirley Whitten, and her family.
- We pray that people may find new meaning in the Easter story this year.
- We thank God for the pleasant weather and the continuing rain which we are enjoying.
- We uphold Ian Blanch in prayer.

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross
 The emblem of suffering and shame
 And I love that old Cross where the dearest and
 best
 For a world of lost sinners was slain

CHORUS: And I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
 Till my trophies at last I lay down
 I will cling to the old rugged Cross
 And exchange it some day for a crown

To the old rugged Cross, I will ever be true
 Its shame and reproach gladly bear
 And they'll call me some day to my home far away
 Where His glory forever I'll share

CHORUS: ~ Brad Paisley

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Beulah is presently knitting bears.

It would be great if some people could sew marble bags, skirts or shorts and fabric bags to include

with each box. Last year people knitted or crocheted purses/bags. It would be helpful to have some for this year too.

Please do not go shopping. There will be plenty of time later on to complete the boxes. I'm sure that we can dream up some wonderful crafty ideas to while away our time of isolation. ~ Meg



OXLEY TRANSPORT contacted Meg to so she could let us know that Oxley Transport is still

available for eligible persons for transport to medical appointments etc. PH: 6762 1122

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 Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



Meg's Musings

This year Easter Sunday will feel just a bit different. Perhaps each year there are different influences at work:-

- whether Easter is early or late
- what the weather is like
- Easter is sometimes celebrated in the midst of war
- sometimes famine and hardship have had an impact on how Easter can be celebrated
- Easter was celebrated long before the Western world knew about chocolate

But one thing remains the same. We celebrate Easter as we remember that Jesus Christ is RISEN!

Even though we are not together this Easter, we can still join together with the words,

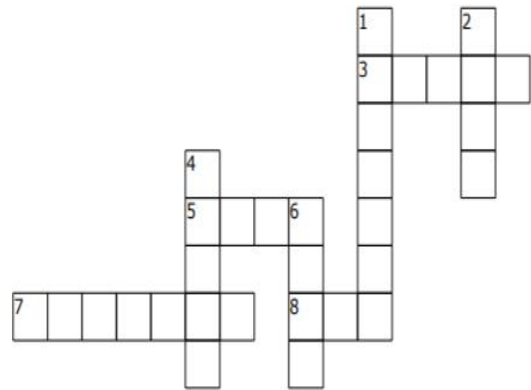
"He is risen indeed!"

Blessings from Meg



An Easter Surprise

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Matthew 28:5-6



ACROSS

3. "He is not here, he has _____."

5. A place where someone, especially an important person, is buried

7. The first or early part of a day

8. A period of twenty-four hours

DOWN

1. To kill someone by tying or nailing them to a cross

2. A period of seven days

4. A hard solid substance found in the ground which is often used for building

6. The whole physical structure that forms a person

22 April

~ Mavis Chaffey

28 April

~ Jean Stratford



ATTITUDE

*is a little thing
that makes a*

BIG DIFFERENCE

~ Winston Churchill

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