



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

3 May 2020

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

John 10:1-10 (NIV)

The Good Shepherd and His Sheep



10 "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber.

² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.

⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice."

⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them.

⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:1-10

How nice it is to know that Jesus knows each and every one of us by name.

Not only did the shepherds of Jesus' day know each sheep by name; they knew them individually. The shepherd knew which sheep were leaders, and which were followers; which sheep would stay together, and which were more likely to wander off away from the flock.

He also knew which lambs were likely to become tired, and need carrying home, and which were strong enough to be more independent.

Jesus knows our strengths and weaknesses. He knows when we are feeling capable, and "on top of things", and when we are feeling a bit overwhelmed by events around us.

Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves. How nice to be known through and through, and to be loved and accepted, no matter what.

In the words of a modern hymn,
"Nothing that you've done could make Him love you more,
And nothing that you've done could make Him close the door."

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. ~ John 10:9

Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 2:19-25



Dream as if you'll live forever, live as if you'll die today. ~ James Dean

10 May ~ Alison Forrester
14 May ~ Evelyn Kean
20 May ~ Shirley Whitten
26 May ~ Bill Forrester



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



"THE SECRET OF CHANGE IS TO FOCUS ALL OF YOUR ENERGY, NOT ON FIGHTING THE OLD, BUT ON BUILDING THE NEW."

— SOCRATES

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." ~ Deuteronomy 31:6

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Beth's daughter Tina, who has a range of health issues.
- We pray for Fay's son, Rick, who recently had a stay in hospital.
- Our prayers are with aged care residents who may be feeling lonely at the moment, and are missing visits from family members and friends.
- We also pray for all medical staff throughout the world.
- We pray for those who have bereaved during this difficult time.

Meg's Musings

We are in a time of "in between".
 Summer is past, but winter hasn't yet arrived.
 The first tentative steps are being taken to allow a little more social interaction - but no-one is sure how it will all unfold.
 Whilst our nation has coped well so far with Covid19, many other nations are still at a critical stage.
 Nobody is sure whether it will be months, or years, before overseas flights recommence.
 We can become overwhelmed by change - or we can look at what is unfolding in this time of uncertainty.
 There are blue skies over cities that haven't seen that in years.
 Some people have had time to stop, and catch their breath, whilst others are busier than ever.
 Have you glimpsed God in the "in between", and the uncertainty?

Blessings from Meg



AN UPDATE FROM DOUG AND MARGARET

Hi Everyone. Doug and I are going very well during this period. I think it is exciting as when at school I learnt about the black plague now my great,great,great grandchildren will be learning of the covid 19 and we are part of the history.

Gosh it's amazing how many things you can find to do when you are home all the time, I'm sure my cupboards have never been so organized.

Have made some grapefruit marmalade and tomato jam and read dozens of books and taken up doing the crossword in the Leader which we now have delivered.

Was like Christmas when our groceries were delivered as although we knew what we had ordered to see them was almost exciting.

Doug has been in the garden and now grinding up various grains for our two fowls. He also spent a couple of days mowing the lawns out at Hallsville which he enjoyed - being out.

We are blessed with the beautiful weather and am taking full advantage of it. Hope that you are all able to do the same,
 love and Blessings Margaret and Doug

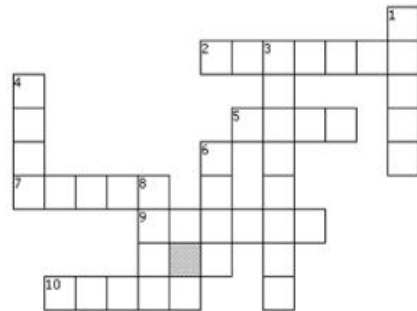
Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green, he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
ev'n for his own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill:
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me::
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.



The Lord Is My Shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Psalm 23:1



ACROSS

2. An area with grass or other vegetation for sheep or cattle to graze on
5. To be frightened of something
7. A building or dwelling place for a family
9. An area of low land between mountains or hills
10. An article of furniture upon which we eat our meals

DOWN

1. To show kindness, compassion, and forgiveness
3. One who herds, guards, and tends sheep
4. The route along which something travels
6. To go or travel on foot
8. The quality of being morally bad or wrong; wicked

Don't you know your imperfections is a blessing?

~ Kendrick Lamar



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