



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

31 May 2020

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Acts 2:1-13 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.

7 Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?"

8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome

11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

I Corinthians 12:3b-13



3 June ~ Tony Orr

6 June ~ Meg Mangan

7 June ~ Simon Hansford



Wrinkles will only go where the smiles have been.

~ Jimmy Buffett

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



Acts 2:14-21 (NIV)

Peter Addresses the Crowd

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning!

16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 "In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your young men will see visions,

your old men will dream dreams.

18 Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will prophesy.

19 I will show wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and billows of smoke.

20 The sun will be turned to darkness

and the moon to blood

before the coming of the great and

glorious day of the Lord.

21 And everyone who calls

on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Acts 2: 1 - 21

What an extraordinary experience. Flames and wind, and people suddenly able to speak in a language other than their own.

Instead of having the opportunity of being able to sit down, and take it all in, the disciples were instead confronted by a large crowd which had gathered, drawn by the sound of the wind, and a natural curiosity.

Peter acted as spokesperson. Somehow he managed to make his voice heard above the din, and got everyone's attention.

Instead of using his own words, Peter turned to scripture, and quoted from the prophet Joel.

The words are most inclusive. It speaks of men and women, old and young.

It speaks of dreams and visions and wondrous signs.

The passage from Joel seems to be saying that there is no need for fear, and that everyone can be included.

On a day so out of the ordinary, it must have been comforting to know that God is in charge, and that we can trust Him.

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Joyce Dowsett who is experiencing lots of arthritic pain.
- We give thanks that Peter Scorgie has been recognised as Tamworth Senior Volunteer for 2020 for his work for Meals on Wheels. Well done, Peter!
- We continue to pray for Ian Blanch.
- We pray for Kevin Hoyt's brother Colin who is undergoing radiation treatment at the moment.
- We pray for everyone experiencing difficulty coping with the isolation which Covid19 has imposed.

Meg's Musings

On night earlier this week I forgot to stoke the fire before I went to bed.

I woke about 4:00am, and realised what had happened.

I opened the door of the slow-combustion fire, and found a few embers, barely glowing.

It was too cold to go outside to find some kindling, so I put the smallest pieces of wood I had into the fire, and opened up the air intake.

For quite a while, all that I could see was a faintly glowing ember. Would it catch, or would we have a cold house by morning?

After about twenty minutes I saw the first small flame. Slowly the wood caught, and I was able to put more wood in, and reduce the air intake, and go back to bed.

I thought about those flames of Pentecost, and how they seemed to bring the disciples to life.

Sometimes our faith seems like a tiny ember in need of nurture.

Sometimes we are more sure of that faith, and can act more boldly.



Blessings from Meg

John 20:19-23 (NIV)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Sometimes an ember is all we need.

An update from Sue

Oh!! - I could be in Paris this week with my niece Allison - visiting Champagne and Chantilly, but alas I'm here in Tamworth enjoying the autumn leaves and some beautiful sunsets. It reminds me of what wonderful things God has given us right here. For me God is in the beauty of every sunset.

Our broad beans have all come up. God has taught me patience in the time waiting for them to appear. The peas are coming along well too.

Allison, Denby and I have dusted off our hockey sticks and have been hitting a hockey ball down at riverside. It brings back great memories of when we had eleven hockey fields there and we all played on Saturday afternoon then socialized after. What good days they were. It brings smiles to our faces - even if our skills are not as good on the bumpy grass.

Mum and I have been watching Songs of Praise on Sundays to try to keep our Sundays a time we spend reflecting on God's influence on our lives. Denby has been joining us too.

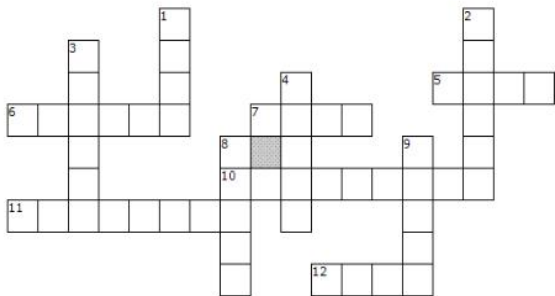
This is my prayer for you all.

Comfort on difficult days. Smiles when sadness intrudes. Rainbows to follow the clouds. Laughter to kiss your lips. Sunsets to warm your hearts. Hugs when spirits sag. Friendships to brighten your being. Beauty for your eyes to see. Faith so that you can believe. Confidence for when you doubt. Patience to accept the truth. Courage to know yourself and love to complete your life. **Amen**

Filled with the Holy Spirit

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21 (NIV)



ACROSS

5. Make something to be full
6. To be totally surprised
7. Something that is pure and good, such as God's Word
10. The day the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles
11. Means of communication used by the people of a particular country
12. A destructive burning

DOWN

1. Blowing air, especially that which would move the leaves on a tree
2. A being that cannot be seen, like a ghost
3. The place where God lives
4. Something that can be heard
8. To say words, to use the voice
9. A building which people live in

Old enough to know my limit,
young enough to exceed it. ~ anon



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