

# **Peel Valley Congregation**

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

10 January 2021

# **Ecclesiastes 31-8** (NIV) **A Time for Everything**

- 3 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
- <sup>2</sup> a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
- <sup>3</sup> a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build.
- <sup>4</sup> a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
- a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
   a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
- a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
- a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
- a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

# Isaiah 60:1-6 (NIV) The Glory of Zion

- **60** "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.
- See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.
- Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- 4 "Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip.
- Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
- to you the riches of the nations will come.

  Herds of camels will cover your land,
  young camels of Midian and Ephah.

  And all from Sheba will come,
  bearing gold and incense
  and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

# Psalm 8 (NIV)

- LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.
- <sup>2</sup> Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
  - to silence the foe and the avenger.
- When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
- what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
- human beings that you care for them?

  You have made them a little lower than the

and crowned them with glory and honour.

- You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
  - you put everything under their feet:
- <sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,
- the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.
- LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

# Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7 Psalm 29



### **CHURCH SERVICES**

7 February 11am West ~ Meg Mangan 🚂



"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up." ~ Mark Twain

- 17 January ~ Jan Parker
- 24 January ~ Phyllis Bylund
- 30 January ~ Trevor Forrester
- 31 January ~ Margaret Crowell & Cameron
- 31 January ~ Kevin Hoyt



# (C)

#### IN OUR PRAYERS

- ➤ We give thanks for the rain, and the cool weather of the past fortnight.
- We give thanks that many plants are springing to life in the mild conditions.
- We pray for Fay who is in Lismore Base Hospital recovering from surgery.
- We pray for Beth's daughter Tina, who has spent over a week in hospital.
- We give thanks for medical staff, both locally and around the world.
- We pray for the millions of people experiencing lock-down at the moment.

# Meg's Musings

This past year has been a time where our concept of freedom has been challenged.

Lock-downs have been common, and the question of whether masks should be compulsory has hung over us. Some items in supermarkets have been limited to two per customer.

Travel restrictions have separated some families for long periods.

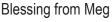
Medical staff in some wards have had to stay in hospital accommodation to ensure that they don't risk spreading Covid19 to their families.

Yet there have been anomalies too. People have felt the need to attend political protests, to attend sporting events, and to party with friends.

There has been the question, "Where do my rights and freedoms end, and those of others begin?"

Everyone has a slightly different perspective, and how we see things may change over time.

Our guiding light in this, and many other matters is perhaps best summed up in the words of Jesus, "Love God, and love others as you love yourself".





"Which is more important," asked Big Panda, "the journey or the destination?"

"The company." said Tiny Dragon.

When God gives you a new beginning, don't make the same mistakes. ~ anon

## Mark 1:4-11 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

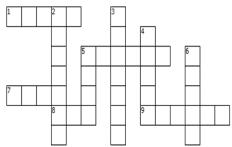
# The Baptism and Testing of Jesus

<sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

# 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**

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

#### **DOWN**

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

## 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