

Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

15 August 2021

Psalm 111 (NIV)

¹ Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.

in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.



- ³ Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- ⁴ He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;

the LORD is gracious and merciful.

- ⁵ He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,

in giving them the heritage of the nations.

- ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
- all his precepts are trustworthy.
- ⁸ They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

all those who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever.

"Take great care, then, how you behave; act sensibly......" ~ Ephesians 5:15

These words could be written for today! Isn't it great that the Bible provides such timely advice for today's problems!

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 0476 375 989** Elders: Margaret Crowell Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14 (NIV) Death of David

¹⁰ Then David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David.

¹¹ The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. ¹² So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

³ Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places.

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you."

⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you.

¹⁴ If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Ivan Whitten who is having eyesight problems at the moment.
- > We pray for everyone affected by lockdown.
- We give thanks that scientists are continuing to search for new vaccines, and also for other ways of overcoming the Covid19 virus.
- > We pray for each other at this difficult time.



> We thank God for His love for us.

Ephesians 5:15-20 (NIV)

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>John 6: 51-58</u>

The theme of "bread" continues as the lectionary works its way through John 6.

These verses seem to pave the way for the concept of Holy Communion, which is based on the Last Supper.

These words are not easy to read, and I am sure that the people listening to Jesus at the time found Jesus' words very confronting.

We need to look behind the words, and to try to find the true meaning of what Jesus was saying. Jesus was using himself as a living parable for the people around him.

Jesus was saying that we need to accept him everything that he said and did, and the fact that he is God's Son.

In accepting Jesus, we are choosing to allow his words to become our food; we are allowing Jesus to sustain us.... and to grow us.

As we accept Jesus, he becomes our life-force, our motivation, our energy..... just as bread provides our physical energy for daily living. If we are unable to accept Jesus, we deny ourselves the opportunity to be fed, led, nurtured, and grown.

Blessing from Meg

Meg's Musings

At the moment, I think that people are looking for signs of hope - perhaps as never before.

The news is grim - the Covid19 Delta variant is spreading; climate change is impacting our world as never before; politicians are trusted by fewer and fewer people.

How do we respond?

God is still at work in our world, and it is important that we look for signs of God's presence.

In my garden, the freesias are just beginning to form new flower heads. I continue to hear from friends - words of encouragement, and words of friendship. Although people may not be able to have lavish weddings, people continue to fall in love.

The world is not in perfect shape, but God is still at work, despite the foolishness, selfishness and greed displayed by a few people.

Let's notice the signs of God's presence, as well as being aware of the problems of our world, Blessing from Meg



John 6:51-58 (NIV)

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.

⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.

⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

28 August ~ Anna Davidson 30 August ~ Denby Budden 31 August ~ Fiona Hansford 31 August ~. Alan Littlejohns



