



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

18 December 2022

## Romans 1:1-7 (NLT)

### Greetings from Paul

<sup>1</sup> This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News.

<sup>2</sup> God promised this Good News long ago through his prophets in the holy Scriptures.

<sup>3</sup> The Good News is about his Son. In his earthly life he was born into King David's family line, <sup>4</sup> and he was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit.

He is Jesus Christ our Lord.

<sup>5</sup> Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority as apostles to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name.

<sup>6</sup> And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> I am writing to all of you in Rome who are loved by God and are called to be his own holy people.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

## Matthew 1:18-25 (NLT)

### The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

<sup>18</sup> This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

<sup>20</sup> As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

<sup>22</sup> All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

<sup>25</sup> But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.



Rejoice in the spirit of Christmas which is Peace,  
the miracle of Christmas which is Hope,  
and the heart of Christmas which is Love.

~ anon

## Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19      Isaiah 7:10-16 

## 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  
Sue Budden                      Daryl Lush



## CHURCH SERVICES CHRISTMAS DAY



25 December 9am Hallsville ~ Meg Mangan

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month ~ Luncheon @ West

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month ~ Markets @ Hallsville



## Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Closed from 17th December,

reopening on 12th January, 2023

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



### IN OUR PRAYERS

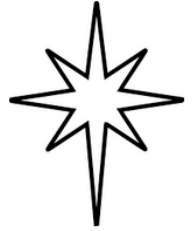
- We give thanks for the rain which fell last Monday, and for the sunny, pleasant weather which has followed the rain.
- We pray for the civilians in Ukraine whose access to power and water is so limited.
- We pray that people throughout our world may truly understand "the reason for the season".
- We pray for the extended Bowd family as they continue to be affected by a range of health issues.
- We thank God for sending Jesus to be "the Light of the World".



### ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

<sup>1</sup> Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo,  
gloria in excelsis Deo.



<sup>2</sup> Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song? [Refrain]

<sup>3</sup> Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

~ tradition French Hymn



### Meg's Musings

Since Fabulous Finds opened, several members of our congregation have donated things they no longer needed. Others have donated their time to staff the shop. Many have contributed cakes and slices to be sold for morning teas. Mavis has knitted a number of warm rugs, and Lynne Bowd has knitted many intriguing soft toy animals.

When Corinne, from the Child Care Centre, asked last month if we wanted to donate some things for children who are in care, I thought that some of Lynne's animals would be just right to be included in our donation. Corinne was pleased with our gifts, and passed them on. Since then she has asked me if I would approach Lynne and ask her to make some more animals. A group of volunteers puts together a suitcase for children when they go into care, and they would love to be able to include a special soft toy. Apparently most children leave home with nothing when they are taken into care, and the case means that they have something to begin with. The Helpers at Fabulous Finds were already aware of the work of this group, and had suggested that we help them financially.

We never know what God is going to call us to do next, and who we will be able to help. I thank God that our congregation is so open to hearing His call.

### Blessing from Meg

Christmas gives us the opportunity to pause and reflect on the important things around us.

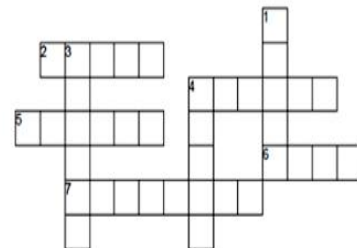
~ unknown

### An Angel Appears to Joseph

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. Matthew 1:24-25 (NIV)



Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct words in the numbered grid below.



#### ACROSS

2. To become husband and wife
4. The earthly father of Jesus
5. A pure, unmarried girl or woman
6. The mother of Jesus
7. A name that means "God is with us"

#### DOWN

1. Images and emotions that occur while you are sleeping
3. To be filled with fear
4. The Son of God

The thing about Christmas is that it almost doesn't matter what mood you're in or what kind of a year you've had - it's a fresh start.

~ Kelly Clarkson



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**Open 9:30 to 1:00pm**  
**Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.**  
Closed from 17th December,  
reopening on 12th January, 2023

**Peel Valley Congregation** is in recess from  
26 December 2022 resuming for 2023  
at Hallsville with our traditional  
**Gospel Music Breakfast**  
**15 January 2023 All Welcome.**



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