



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

27 April 2025

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Revelations 1:4-18 (NLT)

John's Greeting to the Seven Churches

⁴ This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia.

Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne; ⁵ and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world.

All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. ⁶ He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

⁷ Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven.

And everyone will see him—
even those who pierced him.

And all the nations of the world
will mourn for him.

Yes! Amen!

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One."

- 1 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.
- 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.
- 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity. ~ Edwin Hatch (1878)

Acts 5:27-32 (NLT)

²⁷ Then they brought the apostles before the high council, where the high priest confronted them. ²⁸ "We gave you strict orders never again to teach in this man's name!" he said. "Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!" ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead after you killed him by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ Then God put him in the place of honor at his right hand as Prince and Savior. He did this so the people of Israel would repent of their sins and be forgiven. ³² We are witnesses of these things and so is the Holy Spirit, who is given by God to those who obey him."

Welcome to my world

Won't you come on in

Miracles I guess

Still happen now and then

Step into my heart

Leave your cares behind

Welcome to my world

Built with you in mind

Knock and the door will open

Seek and you will find

Ask and you'll be given

The key to this world of mine

I'll be waiting here

With my arms unfurled

Waiting just for you ~ Ray Winkler & John Hathcock

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: ~ Revelations 7:7 (KJV)



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for safety for people travelling this weekend.
- We give thanks for the ANZAC's, and all who have since served in our armed forces.
- We pray for honesty and integrity in the Ukrainian and Middle East peace discussions.
- Millions of people are grieving the death of Pope Francis. We pray that they will know God's comfort.
- We pray for the many people still impacted by the recent floods in Queensland.

Meg's Musings

I recently worked out how to use an old mechanical pruning hook which had been owned by my Dad. It's one of those things that works amazingly well - when you use it correctly.

A cord and pulleys mean that the user can lop off branches an inch thick, up to four metres above the ground.

If only teachers had chosen to illustrate the concepts of physics in such a practical way - I would have found science way more interesting!

One of the reasons people followed Jesus, and found him interesting was because they understood what he was saying.

Jesus anchored his teaching in the everyday through parables. His healings proved his love and compassion - that he understood peoples' pain, and their needs.

Are you able to help other people to understand Jesus because you live out the Christian life in a practical, compassionate way?

Blessing from Meg



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
Open 9:30 to 1:00pm Friday & Saturday



NB: Closed Good Friday, Easter Saturday & Anzac Day.
Cuppa & chat always available.

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."

Minister: **Rev Geoff Flynn 0421 338 202**

Pastoral Care: **Meg Mangan 0476 375 989**

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush



Minister's Weekly Reflection

We have come through a massive week in the churches calendar - 'Holy Week'. From seeing Jesus' Triumphal entry into Jerusalem, to washing the disciples' feet, betrayed, crucified, buried and risen. The disciples living 'post-resurrection' are found, huddled up behind closed doors in fear, guilt and confusion; trying to process what just happened. The resurrected Christ appears and offers Shalom to the gathered.

I have found it interesting that Peace is not something which is offered to us when everything is sorted out and life is calm. It comes as a surprising gift into the heart of our challenging and fearful times - not easy to describe it.

When offered, we find that we can, at last, open the doors of our lives and step out into life - not because everything is solved, but because the presence of the Christ is with us and will walk on with us transforming each tough moment because it is shared with him.

This is why we can carry grace and forgiveness with us as we go - because that is what we have received. Christ meets us in our worries, fears, guilt and offers us the gift of Peace.

Reverend Sam



Other Lectionary Readings:

Revelations 1:9-18 Psalms 118:14-29
Psalms 150



CHURCH SERVICES

4 May 11am West ~ Rev Geoff Flynn
11 May 11am West ~ Rev Sam Sadrata
18 May 11am West ~ Meg Mangan



Peel Valley Congregation's Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville will be hosting-

The Biggest Morning Tea

Thursday 8 May 10am

All welcome.



4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets
7:30am 27 April



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

John 20:19-31 (NLT)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

¹⁹ That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders.

Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said.

²⁰ As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord!

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

²² Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

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

Jesus Appears to Thomas

²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came.

²⁵ They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

²⁶ Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said.

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

²⁸ "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."

Purpose of the Book

³⁰ The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

Every once in a while, a ewe will give birth to a lamb and reject it. There are many reasons she may do this. If the lamb is returned to the ewe, the mother may even kick the poor animal away. Once a ewe rejects one of her lambs, she will never change her mind.

These little lambs will hang their heads so low that it looks like something is wrong with its neck. Their spirit is broken.

These lambs are called "bummer lambs." Unless the shepherd intervenes, that lamb will die, rejected and alone. So, do you know what the shepherd does?

He takes that rejected little one into his home, hand-feeds it and keep it warm by the fire. He will wrap it up with blankets and hold it to his chest so the bummer can hear his heartbeat. Once the lamb is strong enough, the shepherd will place it back in the field with the rest of the flock. But that sheep never forgets how the shepherd cared for him when his mother rejected him. When the shepherd calls for the flock, guess who runs to him first?



That is right, the bummer sheep. He knows his voice intimately.

It is not that the bummer lamb is loved more, it just knows intimately the one who loves it.

It's not that it is loved more, it just believes it because it has experienced that love one on one.

So many of us are bummer lambs, rejected and broken. But He is the good Shepherd. He cares for our every need and holds us close to His heart so we can hear His heartbeat.

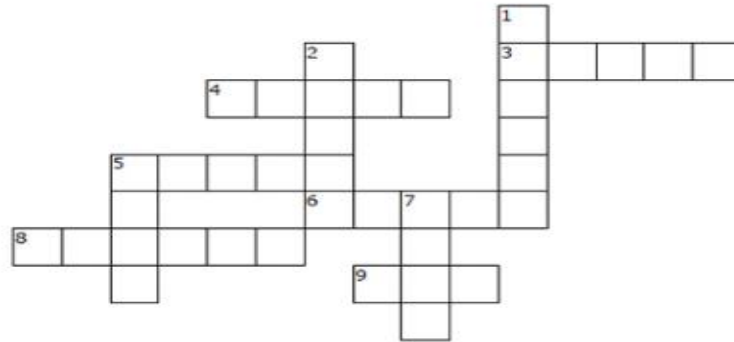
We may be broken but we are deeply loved by the Shepherd.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." (Psalm 23:1) ~ unknown

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight
4. Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
5. To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
6. The body parts at the end of the arms
8. Not open
9. To break God's law

DOWN

1. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
2. To believe in something for which there is no proof
5. An entrance into a building or room
7. A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer

PEACE	DOOR	HANDS	FAITH	HAPPY
NAIL	THOMAS	CLOSED	SIN	DOUBT

Y J M N P S M B J D J Y D J S
 C X I T A T F M L H O Y W A X
 W X R K N Y G X P O F O M E D
 X M A D V Y G E A X C O R E H
 R X C C J V D R L X H K V S A
 T L L U V E D A E T N E E D M
 T K E S H E H I R C I N S D S
 O X S C W B A S S L O C Y N T
 G R U O L K N Z E C L R G D N
 E O H D Q Z D B H J I I D E P
 T S I U J J S A S R S P F E Z
 H N T F E K D P I A M I L B D
 E T W U S N K D D U L G E E E
 R S R N U K P S E S L V H N S
 R P T V S V D O U B T I N G B

JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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