



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

20 July 2025

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

## Amos 8:1-12 (NLT)

### A Vision of Ripe Fruit

**8** Then the Sovereign LORD showed me another vision. In it I saw a basket filled with ripe fruit. <sup>2</sup>“What do you see, Amos?” he asked.

I replied, “A basket full of ripe fruit.” Then the LORD said, “Like this fruit, Israel is ripe for punishment! I will not delay their punishment again. <sup>3</sup>In that day the singing in the temple will turn to wailing. Dead bodies will be scattered everywhere. They will be carried out of the city in silence. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!”

<sup>4</sup> Listen to this, you who rob the poor and trample down the needy!

<sup>5</sup> You can't wait for the Sabbath day to be over and the religious festivals to end so you can get back to cheating the helpless. You measure out grain with dishonest measures and cheat the buyer with dishonest scales.

<sup>6</sup> And you mix the grain you sell with chaff swept from the floor. Then you enslave poor people for one piece of silver or a pair of sandals.

<sup>7</sup> Now the LORD has sworn this oath by his own name, the Pride of Israel: “I will never forget the wicked things you have done!

<sup>8</sup> The earth will tremble for your deeds, and everyone will mourn. The ground will rise like the Nile River at floodtime; it will heave up, then sink again.

<sup>9</sup> “In that day,” says the Sovereign LORD, “I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth while it is still day.

....continued

## Amos 8:10-12 (NLT)

<sup>10</sup> I will turn your celebrations into times of mourning and your singing into weeping. You will wear funeral clothes and shave your heads to show your sorrow—

as if your only son had died. How very bitter that day will be!

<sup>11</sup> “The time is surely coming,” says the Sovereign LORD, when I will send a famine on the land—

not a famine of bread or water but of hearing the words of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup> People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from border to border searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it.

## Luke 10:38-42 (NLT)

### Jesus Visits Martha and Mary

<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.

<sup>39</sup> Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord's feet, listening to what he taught.

<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, “Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me.”

<sup>41</sup> But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details!

<sup>42</sup> There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.”

### Other Lectionary Readings:

Psalms 52

Colossians 1:15-42





### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for the people of the Middle East and Ukraine as they seek to live through the many difficult aspects of war.
- We pray for, and give thanks, for Beulah, as she celebrates another birthday later this week.
- We give thanks for the love and support of our family and friends.
- We pray for people travelling this weekend as the school holidays end.
- We pray for the residents and staff of the Tamworth aged care facilities.



Who are we, if not measured by our impact on others? **That's who we are!**  
 We're not who we say we are, we're not who we want to be ~ we are the sum of the influence and impact that we have, in our lives, on others.

~ Carl Sagan

### Meg's Musings

As I write this, I'm listening to the noise of a tree in our street being felled. Tess had contacted a Tree Surgeon to lop a tree.

However, the Tree Surgeon spotted a big split in the trunk of the tree, and recommended the trees' removal.

So the tree is being removed before the split can cause the tree to suddenly divide, and cause damage to whatever it hits.

Tess was sad that the tree had to go, but I'm sure that she'll replace it with a tree which won't grow quite as tall, and won't require regular lopping.

It was a tree growing in the wrong place, as it's leaves were blocking up roof guttering, and causing a series of problems.

Sometimes we have moments of doubt, and feel that we're in the wrong place, or that we no longer belong. But God places us in situations with good intention - there is always someone we could be reaching out to, or helping.

We never need removing as Tess' tree did. We just need to work out how God wants us to best serve him.

*Blessing from Meg*



### CHURCH SERVICES

**27 July** 11am **West** Meg Mangan



### Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Friday & Saturday

Cuppa and a chat always available



"I am old but I am forever young at heart. We are always the same age inside. Know that you are the perfect age. Each year is special and precious, you can only live it once. Do not regret growing older, it's a privilege denied to many!"

~ Richard Gere

Mistakes are painful when they happen, but years later a collection of mistakes called Experience leads us to success. ~ anon

### 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**

**Rev Sam Sadrata 0431 216 188**

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

Elder: Margaret Crowell

**P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH**



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Suggestions include: toys, hygiene items, tooth brush, hair brush, school supplies, and fun gifts.



## Ministers Weekly Reflection

### Real listening to Jesus is a learned art.

Rev Sam and I have returned from the meeting of the Synod of NSW/ACT which was held at the Western Sydney Conference Centre in Penrith from 10-12 July. Our Moderator Rev. Faaimata Havea Hiliau showed great patience as she worked to give each of the 360 members opportunity to debate the various proposals. The UCA Manual for Meetings reminds us that we hear the voice of God in the councils of the church, and encourages us to be a community which listens to one another in a spirit of openness and humility to better discern the will of God.

In this week's Gospel reading from Luke 10:38-42 a woman named Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. The tension escalates between Martha and Mary because of the way they are relating with Jesus. They have different interests, priorities and ways of expressing love. Which of them is right? During the Synod the Moderator was careful to keep in balance the differing needs of the membership, some of whom are more prayerful and others who are more task orientated.

Real listening to Jesus is a learned art. Often what we identify as listening is usually our waiting to change the subject, give advice or otherwise turn the focus away from the person. Genuine care for others expresses itself in our willingness to hear them and to notice any discomfort expressed in body language or tone of voice. The use of orange and blue cards helps Synod members to pay attention and give feedback to the speaker. Without attention we make incorrect assumptions and prolong our meetings.

After much listening the Synod passed a historical resolution to establish a Transition Commission to work toward dissolving the existing 12 Presbyteries and standup 3 new Presbyteries on 1 July 2026. The New Northern Presbytery will consist of the old New England Northwest, Hunter, Far North Coast, Mid North Coast and Sydney Central Coast Presbyteries. The full details of the resolutions can be found at <https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/> Rev. Pablo Nunez steps into the role of Moderator Elect, bringing years of grounded and diverse ministry across rural, regional and urban Australia. ....continued

"the reason you should care... is not that it could happen to you but that it is already happening to others." ~ Marsha Gessen

## Ministers Weekly Reflection (continued)

Sometimes when we listen to a person speak at Synod there is a great deal of rubbish to be dumped or layers of rust to be scraped off before we get to heart of their concern. This calls for patience and openness. Are there gems hidden among the tangential references? The same can be said about reading the bible. You must sit with the stories over a lifetime and listen for a living word that speaks into your life.

The underlying message I heard at the Synod was voiced by Rev Peter Walker newly elected Synod General Secretary, "Change begins with trust and trust begins with relationships".

May God bless you as you listen deeply at the feet of Jesus this week.

Rev Geoff



The Comedian **Charlie Chaplin** lived for 88 years and left behind many life lessons:

- ✓ Nothing is permanent in this world—not even our troubles.
  - ✓ I love walking in the rain because no one can see my tears.
  - ✓ The most wasted day in life is the day we do not laugh.
  - ✓ Six of the best doctors in the world:
  - ✓ Sun, Rest, Exercise, Diet, Self-respect and Friends.
  - ✓ Stick to them throughout your life and enjoy a healthy life.
  - ✓ If you look at the moon, you will see God's beauty.
  - ✓ If you look at the sun, you will see God's power.
  - ✓ If you look in the mirror, you will see the best of God's creations.
- So believe it—we are all travelers; life is just a journey. ~ anon

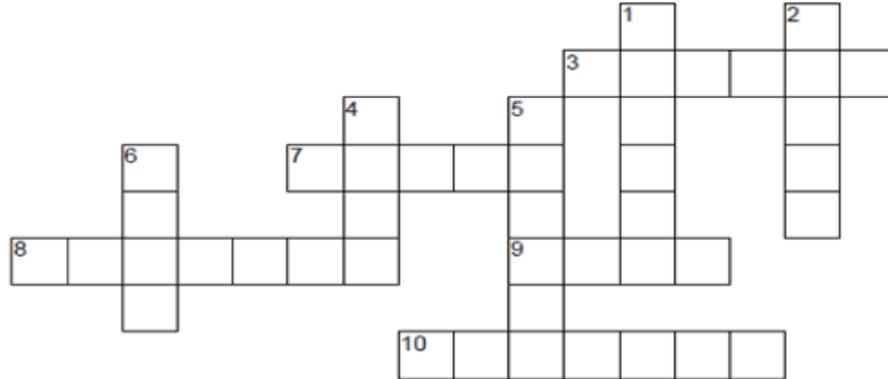
Kindness is the most powerful way of leaving a memory inside people's hearts.

~ dodonsky

# At the Feet of Jesus

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 10:38-42



## ACROSS

3. To pay attention to what someone says
7. An adult female human
8. A very small town
9. Activity, such as a job, which a person performs; labor
10. To be concerned about something; to be troubled

## DOWN

1. A female having the same parents as another person
2. The son of God
4. The place where a family lives
5. A spoken or written reply to a question
6. To give assistance to someone

HOME	WORK	ANSWER	WORRIED	VILLAGE
LISTEN	WOMAN	JESUS	SISTER	HELP

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

FEET	NEEDED	WOMAN	NEEDED	MARY
CHOSEN	MARTHA	SISTER	JESUS	UPSET
THING	HELP	BETTER	WORRIED	WORK