



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

12 October 2025

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

## Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 (NLT)

### A Letter to the Exiles

**29** Jeremiah wrote a letter from Jerusalem to the elders, priests, prophets, and all the people who had been exiled to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar.

<sup>4</sup> This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem:

<sup>5</sup> "Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce.

<sup>6</sup> Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away!

<sup>7</sup> And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare."

## Luke 17: 11-19 (NLT)

### Ten Healed of Leprosy

**11** As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria.

**12** As he entered a village there, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance, **13** crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

**14** He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy.

**15** One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" **16** He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.

**17** Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? **18** Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" **19** And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."

## Psalm 66:1-12 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup> Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup> Sing about the glory of his name!

Tell the world how glorious he is.

<sup>3</sup> Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

Your enemies cringe before your mighty power.

<sup>4</sup> Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises, shouting your name in glorious songs.

*Interlude*

<sup>5</sup> Come and see what our God has done, what awesome miracles he performs for people!

<sup>6</sup> He made a dry path through the Red Sea,

and his people went across on foot.

There we rejoiced in him.

<sup>7</sup> For by his great power he rules forever.

He watches every movement of the nations;

let no rebel rise in defiance.

*Interlude*

<sup>8</sup> Let the whole world bless our God and loudly sing his praises.

<sup>9</sup> Our lives are in his hands,

and he keeps our feet from stumbling.

<sup>10</sup> You have tested us, O God; you have purified us like silver.

<sup>11</sup> You captured us in your net and laid the burden of slavery on our backs.

<sup>12</sup> Then you put a leader over us.

We went through fire and flood,

but you brought us to a place of great abundance.

Have enough courage to start and enough heart to finish. ~ Jessica N. S. Yourko

**CHURCH SERVICES** 11am West Tamworth  
19 October ~ Rev Geoff Flynn



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

## IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for people travelling this weekend as the school holidays end.
- We pray for the students who will be starting their HSC exams shortly.
- We give thanks for birdsong.
- We pray for all those people in hospitals and nursing homes.
- We are thankful to God for our families.

## Meg's Musings

In this weeks' reading from Luke, Jesus was asked by some lepers to have pity on them.

We don't know what those ten men hoped for, or expected from Jesus. They may have just hoped for a kind word, or some food to keep them going.

What they received was healing. Healing which would allow them to rejoin their community, and to once again lead meaningful, happy lives.

Nine of them were so thrilled and excited that they failed to even stop, and to say, "Thank you, Jesus".

Most of us lead lives which are comfortable and happy - although it may not be a perfect life, with health issues sometimes getting in the way.

Do we remember to say our "Thank you's" to God for all of the blessings that he has showered upon us?

*Blessing from Meg*



*Life becomes easier when you learn to accept the apology you never got. ~ R. Brault*

## 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**



## Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches Newsletter- Minister's Reflection

This week's readings call us to remember not just as an act of memory, but as a living participation in the hope of the gospel.

In 2 Timothy 2:8-15, Paul writes from prison, his chains clinking in the background of his words. And yet, even in confinement, his message is full of freedom:

"Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead." It is a simple phrase, but it contains the whole gospel. In the face of hardship, uncertainty, and even death, Paul anchors his hope in the risen Christ. The resurrection is not a doctrine to be admired from a distance but rather a living truth that sustains and transforms us here and now.

Paul's reminder is especially powerful for us in seasons when faith feels weary, or when the future seems unclear. He does not deny suffering; he simply refuses to let suffering have the last word. "The word of God is not chained," he proclaims. The hope of Christ cannot be imprisoned. It moves quietly, persistently, through hearts and communities, bringing light to dark places, including ours.

Then, in Luke 17:11-19, we meet ten lepers who cry out for mercy. All are healed, but only one returns. A Samaritan, an outsider, falling at Jesus' feet in gratitude. The story is not only about thanksgiving; it's about recognition. The Samaritan sees more than healing, he sees the Healer. In returning, he receives something deeper than physical restoration: he receives wholeness.

Gratitude, in this story, becomes a gateway to faith. It opens the heart to hope,

because gratitude looks beyond what is to the One who is faithful. In a world that often teaches us to grasp and move on, the Samaritan's pauses and return. This perhaps acts to remind us that hope grows strongest in the soil of thankfulness.

As Paul endures his chains, and the Samaritan kneels in thanksgiving, both are living expressions of the same truth - that our hope is not dependent on circumstance. It is grounded in the unchained, unchanging love of Christ.

So as we journey together as a regional church through busyness, uncertainty, and blessing, may we remember Jesus Christ. May we see with thankful eyes what God is doing among us, and may our hearts find courage and hope in the One who still meets us on the road, bringing healing and grace.

*Rev Samuela Sadrata*



**Fabulous Finds Op Shop @**

**Hallsville**

**9:30 to 1:00pm Thursday,**

**Friday & Saturday**

***Cuppa and a chat always available.***

## I Don't Want to Be a Burden in My Old Age



I am not afraid of growing old. Let the wrinkles come—I will wear them like medals, proof that I have laughed, cried, and lived deeply.

Let my skin loosen and fold like pages in a well-loved book. Let my hair silver and shine, a crown earned by years of stories.

I do not fear the quiet. Solitude is no stranger; I have learned to make peace with my own company. I have sat in stillness and found strength there. I know how to rest in the silence without being swallowed by it. But what unsettles me is something else—fate. That unpredictable force that sometimes tucks you in at night like a loving hand and other times leaves you standing in the rain, forgotten and cold.

I do not want to become a burden—a sigh of exhaustion behind closed doors. I do not want my presence to feel heavy in the room or my name to be whispered in tones of weariness. I do not want my dependence to become someone else's silent sacrifice.

I want to be like the wind—restless, moving, always dancing forward.

I want my old age to be a poem of resilience, a morning brewed with memories, a sunset painted with hope. I want to keep learning, keep loving, keep discovering—never stagnant, never finished.

I do not fear aging. I fear being boxed in by a life I didn't choose—a life that shrinks instead of expands.

So I will keep walking forward, not clinging to what was, but embracing what still can be. And if the day comes when my steps falter and I lean on others more than I would like, I will offer my gratitude freely, never forgetting that love is not a burden—it's a gift.

To those who carry others with patience and tenderness—you are the quiet heroes of this world. Thank you. ~Unknown

## Operation Christmas Child



Peel Valley UC has delivered twenty shoeboxes stuffed with sun hats and sunglasses, t-shirts, teddies,

toys, school bags full of writing pads, pencils, erasers, sharpeners and essential toiletries. One of the most cherished items the children receive is often the photo and message from the sender - we included this message. -

*"We are from Tamworth in New South Wales, Australia and wanted to share God's love with you. We packed this box with much love and hope it brings you joy!"*

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the boxes; Lynn and Beulah for knitting the beautiful teddies and hand puppets, Meg for little dolls in bags and Pat for creating such sturdy and functional school bags.

Thank you to everyone who donated money to purchase these gifts in support of Operation Christmas Child.



## **2 Timothy 2:8-13 (NLT)**

<sup>8</sup> Always remember that Jesus Christ, a descendant of King David, was raised from the dead. This is the Good News I preach. <sup>9</sup> And because I preach this Good News, I am suffering and have been chained like a criminal. But the word of God cannot be chained. <sup>10</sup> So I am willing to endure anything if it will bring salvation and eternal glory in Christ Jesus to those God has chosen.

<sup>11</sup> This is a trustworthy saying:

If we die with him,  
we will also live with him.

<sup>12</sup> If we endure hardship,  
we will reign with him.

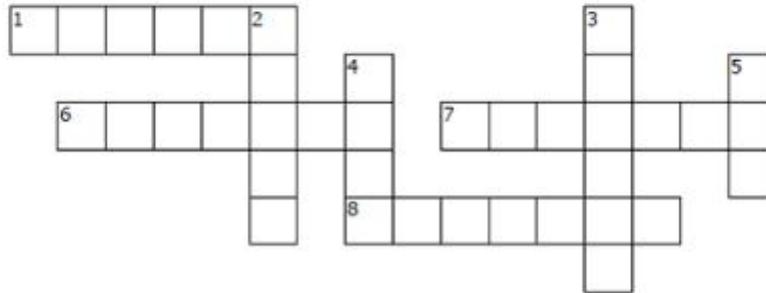
If we deny him,  
he will deny us.

<sup>13</sup> If we are unfaithful,  
he remains faithful,  
for he cannot deny who he is.

# Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 17:15 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 17:11-19 (NIV)



## ACROSS

1. A person ordained to perform religious duties in the church
6. A community smaller in than a city
7. To rid of impurities by or as if by washing
8. An infectious disease that damages a person's nerves and skin

## DOWN

2. To express gratitude to someone for something they have done
3. To honor, worship, and express admiration to God
4. To restore to health
5. The number equal to 7 + 3

THANK PRAISE	TEN HEAL	CLEANSE PRIEST	LEPROSY VILLAGE
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S U L I R D V I L L A G E A S  
 S S T H E T V K S M Z F I F Z  
 V O H L V R H S W M S R E I J  
 V G A L T A D I S T A N C E L  
 X E N L E V E S P M P I T Y T  
 H D K O N E P Z A R J B X G L  
 J S E Y L L G S H G I N D C E  
 Y C D I R E J J P E X E Y A P  
 K T L Z P D E E M F E I S J R  
 V A C E M Y S G X S A Q V T O  
 G O N Z A U U P P R A I S E S  
 U X I D S N S C W O T D T F Y  
 M M U C T S S N V C F V M H P  
 M O D N E U N E N I N E Q M Q  
 L W A L R X A B D Y R D R J O

FAITH	TRAVELED	FEET	LEPROSY	THANKED
VOICE	PITY	PRIESTS	JESUS	PRAISE
SAMARIA	DISTANCE	VILLAGE	GALILEE	NINE
MASTER	TEN	HEALED	CLEANSSED	LOUD

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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