



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

26 October 2025

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

Joel 2:23-32 (NLT)

²³ Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem!
 Rejoice in the LORD your God!
 For the rain he sends demonstrates his faithfulness.
 Once more the autumn rains will come,
 as well as the rains of spring.
²⁴ The threshing floors will again be piled high with grain,
 and the presses will overflow with new wine and olive oil.
²⁵ The LORD says, "I will give you back what you lost
 to the swarming locusts, the hopping locusts, the stripping locusts, and the cutting locusts.
 It was I who sent this great destroying army against you.
²⁶ Once again you will have all the food you want, and you will praise the LORD your God, who does these miracles for you.
 Never again will my people be disgraced.
²⁷ Then you will know that I am among my people Israel,
 that I am the LORD your God, and there is no other.
 Never again will my people be disgraced.

The LORD's Promise of His Spirit

²⁸ "Then, after doing all those things,
 I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.
 Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
 Your old men will dream dreams,
 and your young men will see visions.
²⁹ In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants—men and women alike.
³⁰ And I will cause wonders in the heavens and on the earth—
 blood and fire and columns of smoke.
³¹ The sun will become dark,
 and the moon will turn blood red
 before that great and terrible day of the LORD arrives.
³² But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD
 will be saved,
 for some on Mount Zion in Jerusalem will escape,
 just as the LORD has said.
 These will be among the survivors
 whom the LORD has called.

Luke 18:9-14 (NLT)

Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector

⁹ Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else:
¹⁰ "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector.
¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I'm certainly not like that tax collector!
¹² I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'
¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.'
¹⁴ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Other Lectionary Readings:

Psalms 65 2
 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18



CHURCH SERVICES 11am West Tamworth

2 November ~ Rev Geoff

9 November ~ Rev Sam



Peel Valley AGM. - Sunday 2nd

November at West following the service.

There are two kinds of pride, both good and bad.

'Good pride' represents our dignity and self-respect.

'Bad pride' is the deadly sin of superiority that reeks of conceit and arrogance."

~ John C. Maxwell



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for our planet, and everyone on it.
- We pray for God's hand of blessing to be upon those people we treasure the most.
- We pray for healing for Eddie Whitham.
- We give thanks that God is God - and we are not!
- We pray for all people who are grieving at the moment.

Meg's Musings

Sometimes we encounter big problems in life, and sometimes our problems are extremely small.

At the moment our home is being invaded by slaters - those tiny, pesky critters which live in the garden.

Apparently our garden isn't good enough for them at the moment, and they are attempting to migrate indoors.

We get invaded by them at the start of summer each year, but this year they are particularly bad.

They seem to have become a "super breed". In the past they haven't ventured more than a few metres past the front door. This year they are roaming much further afield.

It helps to keep some perspective - to realise that so many people have lots of much bigger problems to overcome.

Whatever problems we encounter - big or small - God continues to be there with us.

Blessing from Meg



If you have a positive attitude and constantly strive to give your best effort, eventually you will overcome your immediate problems and find you are ready for greater challenges. ~ Pat Riley



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

Cuppa and a chat always available.

Wanting to be someone else is a waste of who you are. ~ Kurt Cobain

4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets 
Big breakfast served 8:00 - 10:00 am

Minister's Reflection – "Renewed by Grace"

Readings: Joel 2:23–32 and Luke 18:9–14

As the soft green of spring returns to our gardens and paddocks, we're reminded that renewal is woven into God's creation. The dry and dormant seasons never have the final word. Rain falls again. Buds open again. Life stirs again. The prophet Joel speaks to a people who knew drought, devastation, and loss. Yet into their despair comes a promise - "Be glad, O children of Zion... for God has given the early rain for your vindication." (Joel 2:23) God's Spirit would be poured out "on all flesh," renewing not only the land, but the very hearts of the people.

This promise of renewal isn't just about crops and rain but also about the deep places within us where we long for restoration. Many of us carry the weariness of the years. Memories of what once was, the aches that come with age, the sense that life moves faster than we can keep up. Yet, Joel reminds us that God's renewing Spirit is not confined to the young or the strong. "Your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions." Even in later seasons of life, God is still breathing new dreams into our hearts.

In Luke 18, Jesus tells a parable about two men who come to the temple to pray. One trusts in his own righteousness; the other simply says, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." The Pharisee has all the right words and all the right appearances, but it's the humble tax collector who goes home renewed. True renewal, Jesus teaches us, begins not with pride or effort, but with honesty and grace. With standing before God just as we are, open to being made new.

As we step into this season of spring, may we open our hearts to the quiet work of the Spirit. Renewal may not always look like a burst of colour or energy; sometimes it's a gentle softening, a deep peace returning, a quiet trust that God is not finished with us yet.

So whether you find yourself feeling weary or hopeful, burdened or thankful may we remember that the same God who brings green shoots from bare branches can breathe new life into us, too.

May the rain of grace fall gently upon you this week, and may your soul find its spring again.

Blessings Rev Sam Sadrata 

It never ceases to amaze me: we all love ourselves more than other people, but care more about their opinion than our own.

~ Marcus Aurelius

CARROTS, EGGS, AND COFFEE.

A young woman went to her mother, things were hard for her. She wanted to give up. She was tired of struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved, a new one arose. Her mother took her to the kitchen, filled three pots with water and put them on to boil. Soon the pots came to boil.

In the first she placed some carrots, in the second she placed some eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She left them to boil without saying a word.

In about 15 minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to her daughter, she asked, "Tell me what you see."

"Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied. Her mother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. The mother then asked the daughter to take an egg and break it. It was hard.

Finally, she asked the daughter to sip the coffee. The daughter smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. The daughter then asked, "What does it mean, mother?"

Her mother explained - each had faced Boiling Water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, in the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. After sitting in boiling water, it became hard. The ground coffee - they had changed the water.

"Which are you?" she asked her daughter.

"When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

.....continued

We rise in glory as we sink in pride.

~ Andrew Young

Think of this: Am I the carrot that seems strong, but with pain and adversity do I wilt my strength?

Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I start soft, but after struggling do I become hard and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and hardened heart?

Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you when the hour is the darkest and trials are their greatest do you elevate yourself to another level?

How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean?

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way. The brightest future will always be based on a past; you can't go forward til you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

May we all be COFFEE! ~ anon



Vanity and pride are different things, though the words are often used synonymously. A person may be proud without being vain. Pride relates more to our opinion of ourselves; vanity, to what we would have others think of us. ~ Jane Austen

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."

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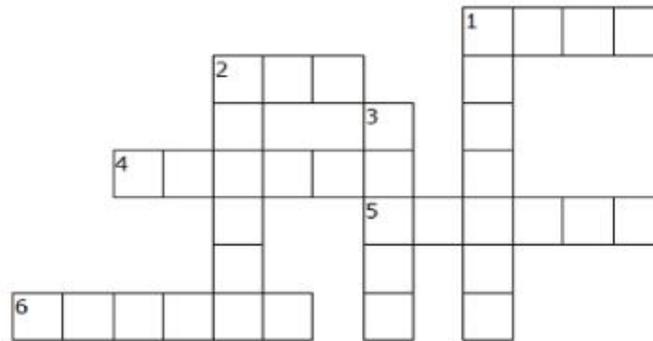


..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus

The Pharisee & the Tax Collector

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Luke 18:14b (NIV)

Based on Luke 18:9-14



ACROSS

1. To speak to God
2. Money paid to support the government
4. Modest, not proud
5. Someone who steals from someone
6. A person who breaks God's law

DOWN

1. A story told by Jesus to teach his followers
2. A place of worship
3. Showing great kindness and forgiveness

TEMPLE	ROBBER	MERCY	SINNER
HUMBLE	PARABLE	TAX	PRAY

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

TEMPLE	EXALT	TAX	PARABLE	LOOK
JUSTIFIED	HEAVEN	PHARISEE	RIGHTEOUS	HUMBLE
BREAST	COLLECTOR	ROBBERS	THANK	EVILDOERS
MERCY	PRAY	ADULTERERS	CONFIDENT	SINNER

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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