



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

30 November 2025 Rev Geoff Flynn Rev Sam Sadrata Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

Romans 13:11-14 (NLT)

The Day Is Near

¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy.

¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

With the help of Presbytery several mission planning workshops were held, and it was discerned that the three congregations would work collaboratively to call a two-person ministry team to work across all three congregations.

The first step on the way to new life was to renew relationships across the congregations by combining for worship and a shared meal on the fifth Sundays of the month.

Step 2 was the appointment of Rev Sam and myself to share ministry across the three congregations.

Step 3 was the embryonic formation of Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches (TRUC): a monthly meeting of the two Ministers and two representatives from each of the congregations chaired by the then chair of Presbytery Rev Tony Shumack.

Step 4 was to expand the TRUC meeting to include three representatives from each congregation. Arising from the strengthening of relationships the members of TRUC prayerfully developed a vision and mission statement which will be launched at our combined service this Sunday.

As we commence a new year in the Christian calendar, we do so with a renewed sense of hope for the Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches. We have prayerfully discerned a clear vision for the future. By operating out of our strengths, in a way that responds to our local context, we can offer the hope of a stronger future for all people living in the Tamworth region.

Rev Geoff



Ministers Reflection

Advent Hope

The Apostle Paul's "wake-up call" reminds believers that "the hour has already come" (13 v.11). As we move into a new Christian year our readings for this Sunday remind us that our mission plans should reflect this same sense of urgency. There is no time to wait for the right conditions, we need to be acting now to embody Christ's love in the community.

When Paul contrasts "works of darkness" with "armour of light" (v.12) he reminds us that we are invited to participate in God's mission to name and resist destructive patterns of living such as apathy, division, consumerism while intentionally cultivating practices of light such as hospitality, justice and reconciliation.

Prior to the arrival of Rev Sam and myself the Peel Valley, Tamworth City and Tamworth Southside Congregations were courageous enough to recognise that they were somewhere on the life cycle of congregations between declining health and old age. There was a recognition that a new vision for the future was required if the congregations were not heading for palliative care. Resisting the temptation to act out of fear and to focus on the things we could control, we were led to try something different.continued

Other Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 2:1-5 Ps 122 Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44



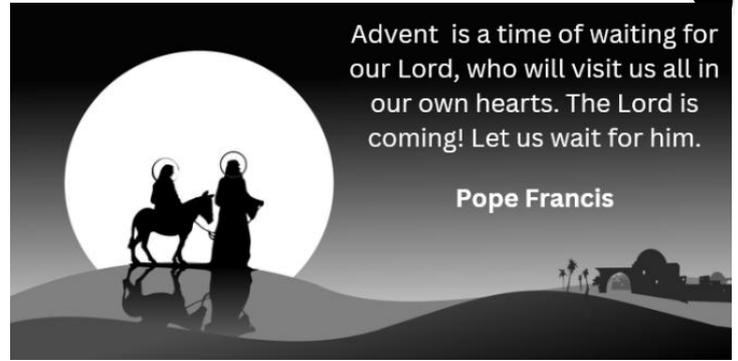
Light looked down and saw the darkness. "I will go there," said light. Peace looked down and saw war. "I will go there," said peace. Love looked down and saw hatred. "I will go there," said love. So he, the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us. ~ John Bell





IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for people throughout Australia affected by the wild weather this week
- We pray for wisdom for leaders discussing peace for Ukraine.
- We thank God for His nearness and love.
- We pray for God's hand to be upon us, and those people we love the most.



Advent is a time of waiting for our Lord, who will visit us all in our own hearts. The Lord is coming! Let us wait for him.

Pope Francis

Meg's Musings

What a fierce storm we had last Tuesday!
 The branches of trees were gyrating wildly as the wind blew from all directions at once.
 I'm sure that each tree had some leaves ripped from their branches.
 Next door to us, a 30 year old tree was split right down the trunk.
 Yet following the storm there is calm.
 I watched butterflies flitting around from blossom to blossom. The old had been blown away, and the blossom left was fresh and enticing.
 The storm gave expression to God's power and might.
 The blossom and butterflies gave expression to just how intricate and delicate God's touch can be.
 What an awesome God!

Blessing from Meg



A Measure of a Man

The measure of a man is not determined
 By his show of outward strength
 Or the volume of his voice
 Or the thunder of his actions
 Or of his intellect or academic abilities
 It is seen rather in terms of the love that he has
 For his family and for everyone
 The strength of his commitments
 The genuineness of his friendships
 The sincerity of his purpose
 The quiet courage of his convictions
 The fun, laughter, joy and happiness he gives to his family and to others
 His love of life
 His patience and his honesty
 And his contentment with what he has.

~ Grady Poulard

CHURCH SERVICES 11am West Tamworth
7 December ~ Rev Sam Sadrata
 Holy Communion followed by lunch.
14 December ~ Rev Geoff Flynn
21 December ~ Meg Mangan
 Baptism followed by lunch:
 The Courts Restaurant



Peel Valley Congregation
18 January, 2026 Country Gospel
Breakfast at Hallsville.



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
9:30 to 1:00pm Thursday, Friday & Saturday *Cuppa and a chat always available.*



4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets
 Big breakfast served 8:00 - 10:00 am
 Next Market **25 January**



Has a bee ever landed on you, and instead of getting scared, you appreciate the possibility that got confused for a flower?

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Worship

24 December 7.30pm City Church
 24 December 11pm Southside Church

Christmas Day Service

25 December 9am Southside Church
 25 December 11am City Church



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