



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

15 March 2026

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

John 9:1–41 (NLT)

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

9 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

³ “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.

⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes.

⁷ “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸ His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?”

⁹ Some claimed that he was.

Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”

¹⁰ “How then were your eyes opened?” they asked.

¹¹ He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

¹² “Where is this man?” they asked him.

“I don’t know,” he said.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind.

¹⁴ Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath.

¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.”

....continued

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.”

But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided.

¹⁷ Then they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.”

The man replied, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man’s parents.

¹⁹ “Is this your son?” they asked. “Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?”

²⁰ “We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind.

²¹ But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.”

²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.

²³ That was why his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. “Give glory to God by telling the truth,” they said. “We know this man is a sinner.”

²⁵ He replied, “Whether he is a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!”

²⁶ Then they asked him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”

²⁷ He answered, “I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?”

²⁸ Then they hurled insults at him and said, “You are this fellow’s disciple! We are disciples of Moses!

²⁹ We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don’t even know where he comes from.”

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³⁰ The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes."

³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will.

³² Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind.

³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

³⁴ To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶ "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

³⁷ Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

³⁸ Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

⁴⁰ Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

⁴¹ Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

Other Lectionary Reading:

1 Samuel 16:1-13



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Beulah, and for her family at this time.
- We pray for Vera as she recovers and heals. We pray that her physiotherapy continues to go well.
- We pray for Daryl Lush as he continues to recover from his accident, and for Val who is in a nursing home in Gunnedah.
- We pray for Alan and Jan who each have medical problems at the moment.
- We pray for our volatile and wounded world.

Meg's Musings

What makes you happy?

Sometimes it just takes something very simple, such as a smile, a hug, or a nice meal.

Sometimes our happiness comes from somewhere deeper inside us.

For the blind man in this weeks' Gospel reading, being able to see for the first time in his life must have made him more than happy.

But some peoples' responses to this miracle were less than happy.

The Pharisees were most unhappy, simply because the man had been healed on the Sabbath.

We all know, and treasure, people who are able to spread happiness. And we all know a few kill-joys. This week, let's try and ensure that our words, and our actions, spread joy and happiness.

Blessing from Meg



CHURCH SERVICE at City Church

22 March 11:15am Fijian service and the **Baptism** of Vaseva Sadrata ~ Geoff Flynn



EASTER SERVICES

2 April 7:00pm Southside
Maundy Thursday Service

3 April 9:30am Southside
Good Friday Service

5 April 9:30am City Church,
Combined Easter Day Service



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

9:30 to 1:00pm Thursday, Friday & Saturday. Cuppa and a chat always available.

HATE, it has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet.

~ Maya Angelou

Palm Sunday
5TH SUNDAY TRUC
COMBINED WORSHIP
Sunday, 29 March 2026
9:30am at Tamworth City Uniting Church
Morning Tea to follow
Join in the worship and fellowship together.

Ephesians 5:8-14 (NLT)

⁸ For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light!

⁹ For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.

¹⁰ Carefully determine what pleases the Lord.

¹¹ Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them.

¹² It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret.

¹³ But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, ¹⁴ for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said,

“Awake, O sleeper,
rise up from the dead,
and Christ will give you light.”

Psalms (KJV)

23 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Minister's Reflection

Live as Children of the Light

This Sunday's readings from John 9:1–41 and Ephesians 5:8-14 use images of light and darkness to help us reflect on how we truly see. These images need care. Darkness is not always something negative; it can be a place of growth and change.

Over time, spiritual language has sometimes harmed people, particularly those who already live on the margins, including people who are blind or vision impaired. That is not the intention of this passage.

The man born blind had spent years sitting outside the Temple, begging. The religious leaders passed him every day. They saw him, but they did not truly notice him. When he was no longer in his usual place, they did not even recognise him. Jesus, however, stopped. He noticed the man, paid attention to him, and treated him as someone who mattered. When the man was later thrown out of the Temple, Jesus went looking for him again—and recognised him immediately.

Think about walking into a dark room and closing the door behind you. At first, you cannot see. You feel along the wall until you find the light switch. When the light comes on, you suddenly realise the room is full of people. They have lived in the dark for so long that their eyes have adjusted. When the light appears, it is too bright for them.

This helps us understand Jesus' words: “I have come so that those who do not see may see, and those who think they see may become blind.” When we are convinced that we already understand everything, the light exposes how limited our vision really is. But when we admit that we do not see clearly and need help, the light can guide us.

One of the most beautiful parts of this story is how the man's understanding of Jesus grows. At first, Jesus is simply “someone named Jesus.” Then he becomes “a prophet.” Under pressure, the man speaks more boldly and says Jesus is “from God.” Finally, when Jesus meets him again, he calls him “Lord” and says, “I believe.”

Most of us move back and forth along this journey. Those who truly learn to see are those who can admit they do not have all the answers. Those who find healing and forgiveness are those who can name their need. But those who are too certain, too comfortable, often remain blind.

Reverend Geoff

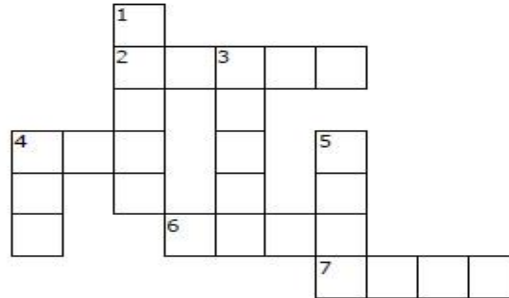


“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil” Psalm 23

Jesus Heals a Blind Man

So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. John 9:7 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on John 9:1-34 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. Brightness that comes from the sun, candles, or electrical devices that allows things to be seen
4. An adult male human being
6. The two organs in your face which are used to see
7. To make someone well from a sickness or injury

DOWN

1. Unable to see
3. Great admiration, honour and praise, especially as given to God
4. A sticky mixture of dirt and water
5. To clean something using water

LIGHT WASH	BLIND EYES	GLORY MAN	MUD HEAL
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S R E X T B S D W O R L D W T
 R B P N H D E I A M B I R T H
 I P R C E V R W G V X V S O L
 L O P N I T D B R H V L R D Q
 B K N E H U P O O L T I G E U
 E I C G B A K M V X P G M L Z
 S E I S L F A E P K A H W H E
 R N I G I Q I O W A R T Y M V
 F C Q D N D H Z S X E O O L P
 X O U H D D G T I A N H T T K
 L M P Z E Q K R L E T C R G C
 P I W E W A S H O Z S S P I T
 C C F E N W K J A U Q R O R Y
 P Q D E U E K E M Q N B S H O
 T N E Y E S D S E L A D M Z Z

~ Sermons 4 Kids

BLIND	EYES	SPIT	POOL	WASH
WORLD	SINNED	SIGHT	NIGHT	BORN
HOME	MUD	LIFE	OPENED	LIGHT
SILOAM	PARENTS	RECEIVED	BIRTH	GROUND

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