



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

3 May 2026

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

## 1 Peter 2:2-10 (NRSVue)

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> This honour, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## John 14:1-14 (NRSVue)

### Jesus the Way to the Father

**14** “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

<sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

<sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.”

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

<sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.”

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

<sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

<sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

If you love Me, keep My commandments.

~ John 14:15

### Other Lectionary Readings:

Acts 7:55-60    Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16



Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle. ~ Plato



### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We give thanks for the many beautiful items donated to Fab Finds - both clothing and bric-a-brac.
- We pray for the Bissett family as they mourn the loss of Jenny - she was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend.
- We pray for Beulah as she settles into her new shared room at McKay House.
- In our inter-connected world there are few people who haven't been impacted in some way by the Middle East war. We pray for everyone affected, and we pray for peace negotiations.
- We pray for healing and comfort for Dell Bungay after a very nasty fall.

### Meg's Musings

In some ways life is a dance of gaining, and of letting go.

At the working bee at Fab Finds on Monday we enjoyed putting winter clothes onto the racks.

A few clothes remained from last winter, but most have been donated since then.

Some were obviously outfits which had meant a lot to the previous owners.

Perhaps life has taken an unexpected turn, and those clothes no longer match their lifestyle.

Some have been donated by grieving family members.

As the clothes await new owners, we give thanks for the generosity of our many patrons - buyers, donors and volunteers.

*Blessing from Meg*



I thought not caring was a superpower. I was wrong. Caring is about stuff, that's what really matters. **Kindness.** Making other people feel good. That's the real superpower. And we've all got it. ~ Tony Johnson

### CHURCH SERVICES 11am West

**10 May** ~ Meg Mangan

**17 May** ~ Rev Sam

**24 May** ~ Meg Mangan

**31 May** ~ Gowrie Community Church  
Closing Service of Thanksgiving – followed by lunch at the Gowrie Community Hall 238 Sweeney's Lane Gowrie.



### The Few

The easy roads are crowded  
 And the level roads are jammed;  
 The pleasant little rivers  
 With the drifting folks are crammed.  
 But off yonder where it's rocky,  
 Where you get a better view,  
 You will find the ranks are thinning  
 And the travelers are few.

Where the going's smooth and pleasant  
 You will always find the throng,  
 For the many, more's the pity,  
 Seem to like to drift along.  
 But the steeps that call for courage,  
 And the task that's hard to do  
 In the end result in glory  
 For the never-wavering few.

~ Edqar A Guest

Three University students dodged exam because they did not study They came up with a plan, got themselves dirty using grease, then went to see the Lecturer" Sir we are sorry we couldn't make it to the exam. We attended a wedding and on our way back the car broke down and we became so dirty as you can see". The Lecturer understood and gave them three days to prepare. After three days, they went to the Lecturer very ready for the exam because they had studied. The Lecturer decided to put them in three separate classes with only four questions in the exam paper as follows:

1. Who got married? (25 marks)
  2. Where was the reception held? (25mks)
  3. Where exactly did the car break down? (25mks)
  4. What type of car broke down? (25mks)
- Marking scheme: your answers must be the same!!! As we speak, they are still in the exam hall writing!  
 Honesty is not for a few but for everyone.

~ unknown

## Minister's Reflection

### Making Room in the Father's House

Last week I had the opportunity to drive past my boyhood family home in Lithgow. I was reminded as I stood out the front taking photograph that our homes are never just bricks and mortar; they hold memories—meals shared, arguments weathered, laughter in the kitchen, prayers whispered at night. That's why Jesus' promise in John 14:1–14 can feel so steady. Speaking to disciples who sense everything changing, he begins with a gentle command that meets real fear: "Let not your hearts be troubled." This isn't a denial of anxiety or a guarantee that God's people will never worry.

Jesus speaks precisely because the disciples are troubled by his departure and what it might mean for their future. At the centre of his words is a promise of belonging: "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places... I go to prepare a place for you." Rather than offering an escape into sentimentality or a blueprint for a distant mansion, Jesus addresses the deeper trouble—fear of abandonment, fear of being cut off from the life they have found with him.

Jesus' promise holds that fear and insists that separation will not have the final word. John's language suggests not only a "house" but a "household": a place defined by relationship, welcome, and shared life. In the Father's household there is room—room enough for difference, for varied callings, for people at different stages of faith, all held together in God's care.

The "place" Jesus prepares is ultimately communion with the Father: a home we begin to inhabit now and will one day know in fullness. So, it makes sense that the disciples ask for directions. Jesus doesn't hand them a set of steps; he offers himself: "I am the way." Following Jesus is a path and a practice—learning trust, the courage to love, and the steadiness of hope, day by day. And as we abide with him, we are shaped into people who make room for others—through welcome after worship, a shared meal, a phone call, or prayer for someone who feels far from home.

*Rev Geoff*



You can't be afraid to fail. It's the only way you succeed - you're not gonna succeed all the time, and I know that. ~ LeBron James



**Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville**

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

## THE POWER OF ONE

One song can spark a moment  
One flower can wake the dream  
One tree can start a forest  
One bird can herald spring  
One smile begins a friendship  
One handclasp lifts a soul  
One star can guide a ship at sea  
One word can frame the goal  
One vote can change the nation  
One sunbeam lights a room  
One candle wipes out darkness  
One laugh will conquer gloom  
One hope will raise our spirits  
One touch can show you care  
One voice can speak with wisdom  
One life can make the difference ~ anon

### Reflections:

Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me.



I want people to know why I look this way.

I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable.

Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth. ~ unknown

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time. ~ Thomas A. Edison

### 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

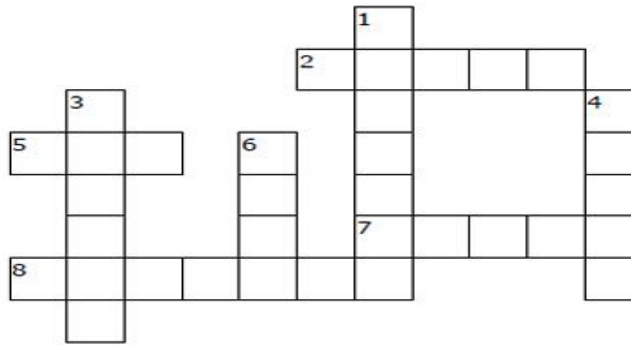
**P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH**



# "I Am the Way"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

Based on John 14:1-14



### ACROSS

2. The actual facts about something
5. The route or path to follow to get to a place
7. Areas in a building that have their own walls, floor, ceiling, and door
8. To accept something as being true

### DOWN

1. To get ready for something that will happen in the future
3. The male parent
4. A building in which people, usually one family, lives
6. The period between birth and death

PREPARE	TRUTH	LIFE	HOUSE
BELIEVE	ROOMS	FATHER	WAY

Sermon4kids4

## "I AM" THE WAY, TRUTH, & THE LIFE



Discover the hidden words.



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

### Word Bank

- |           |        |             |
|-----------|--------|-------------|
| SALVATION | HEAVEN | WRONG       |
| PREPARE   | LORD   | SPIRITUALLY |
| JACOB     | LIFE   | JESUS       |
| ANGELS    | FATHER | MESSIAH     |



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