



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

24 May 2026

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

## Acts 2:1-21 (NLT)

### The Holy Spirit Comes

**2** On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place.

**2** Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.

**3** Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them.

**4** And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages,<sup>[b]</sup> as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

**5** At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem.

**6** When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

**7** They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee,

**8** and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages!

**9** Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia,

**10** Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome **11** (both Jews and converts to

Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!"

**12** They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other.

**13** But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!"

.....continued

## Peter Preaches to the Crowd

**14** Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this.

**15** These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that.

**16** No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:

**17** 'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.

**18** In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike—and they will prophesy.

**19** And I will cause wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below—blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

**20** The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before that great and glorious day of the LORD arrives.

**21** But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.'

## 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

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### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We give thanks for the rain which fell this week.
- We continue to hold Doug Crowell in our prayers.
- We pray for the people throughout the world who are most affected by the fuel and fertiliser shortages.
- We pray for all who are experiencing grief at this time.
- We give thanks that God's love is there for us all - no matter where, no matter when.

### Meg's Musings

As I read the story of Pentecost, one thing stands out for me - it was such an inclusive event!

Everyone in the room received the Holy Spirit.

All of the crowd could hear the message in their own language.

No one was shunned or considered not worthy to receive the message, to be baptised, and to receive the Holy Spirit.

Our world could be much safer and nicer if acceptance was practiced more widely.

If only the leaders throughout our world could focus on being more ready to accept and include people, rather than wanting to shun or to ignore them.

*Blessings from Meg*



### CHURCH SERVICES 11am West

**31 May** ~ Gowrie Community Church

Closing Service of Thanksgiving – followed by lunch at the Gowrie Community Hall  
238 Sweeney's Lane Gowrie.

**7 June** ~ Rev Sam HC



**UnitingWorld**  
connecting communities for life

*UNITING WORLD - is the international aid and partnerships agency of the Uniting Church in Australia.*

Barry Higgins will be giving a talk, and will answer any questions.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May**

**4.30pm St Andrew's Room City Church**

Please bring food to share for a "Potluck Dinner" afterwards.

It's expected to conclude by 7:00pm

### Minister's Reflection

The Spirit Gives Birth to the Church Pentecost Sunday has become a special day in the life of the Uniting Church in Australia In which we are all encouraged to wear something red. It is probable the one special day in the life of the church that has not been taken over by the sale of special food, decorations or costumes.

Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church, and birthdays are occasions for gifts. That makes this season a fitting time to reflect on the gifts of the Holy Spirit described in 1 Corinthians 12. Paul reminds us that while there are many gifts, many forms of service, and many kinds of people in the Church, it is the one Spirit who gives them all. Every believer is included. No one is overlooked, and no gift is without purpose. It is this teaching which has become part of the DNA of the UCA.

Paul begins with a striking truth: no one can truly say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. Even our confession of faith is not something we achieve by our own strength or insight. It is a gracious work of God within us. That truth leaves no room for spiritual pride. Instead, it calls us to humility and gratitude, because everything begins with the mercy and power of God. Paul goes on to say that these gifts are given for the common good. The Spirit does not equip us so we may admire ourselves, but so that we may serve one another and reveal something of God's character to the world. Some are given wisdom, some encouragement, some healing, some practical service, and others quiet faithfulness that may never be publicly noticed. Yet all are needed, and all are holy when offered to Christ. This leads Paul to the beautiful image of the Church as the Body of Christ. A body has many parts, yet it is one body. So it is with the Church. We come from different backgrounds, carry different responsibilities, and receive different gifts, yet we belong to one another because we belong to Christ. Pentecost reminds us that the Spirit creates both diversity and unity. As we give thanks for the Spirit's gifts, may we use them with humility, joy, and love, for the strengthening of the Church and the blessing of the world.

*Rev Geoff*



**Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. ~ Martin Luther King Jr.**



**Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville**

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

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

**John 7:37-39 (NLT)**

**Jesus Promises Living Water**

<sup>37</sup> On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me!

<sup>38</sup> Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.'"

<sup>39</sup> (When he said "living water," he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)

**Other Lectionary Readings:**

Numbers 11:24-30

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b 1

Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23



"Some believe it is only great power that can hold evil in check, but that is not what I have found. It is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of kindness and love."

-J.R.R. Tolkien  
The Hobbit, pub. 1937

Imagine walking through a sweltering, crowded festival on a scorching summer afternoon. Your throat is parched. You rush to the beverage stands, hoping for something to quench your deep thirst. But everything you buy—high-sugar energy drinks, artificially flavored sodas, or expensive iced coffees—leaves you feeling more dehydrated than before.

Suddenly, right in the middle of the crowded festival, someone opens a massive, cool, underground spring. The water is crystal clear, perfectly chilled, and entirely free. Over a megaphone, the owner shouts, *"If anyone is thirsty, come to this spring and drink! And the best part? It won't just quench your immediate thirst—drink deeply, and this water will become a well inside you, overflowing into a river for everyone else to enjoy."*

As you drink the water, your thirst vanishes. It instantly revitalizes your entire body. But it doesn't stop there. You notice that your hands are suddenly full of cups of this cool water. Because your own thirst is satisfied, you aren't fighting the crowds anymore just to take care of yourself. Instead, you start handing the water out to the people around you who are still exhausted and dehydrated. Your life is no longer about endlessly consuming; it has become an overflowing conduit of refreshing life for a desperate world

**The Thirst:** human longing for peace, purpose, and satisfaction. **Coming to Jesus to Drink:** trusting in Christ to supply what your soul actually needs.

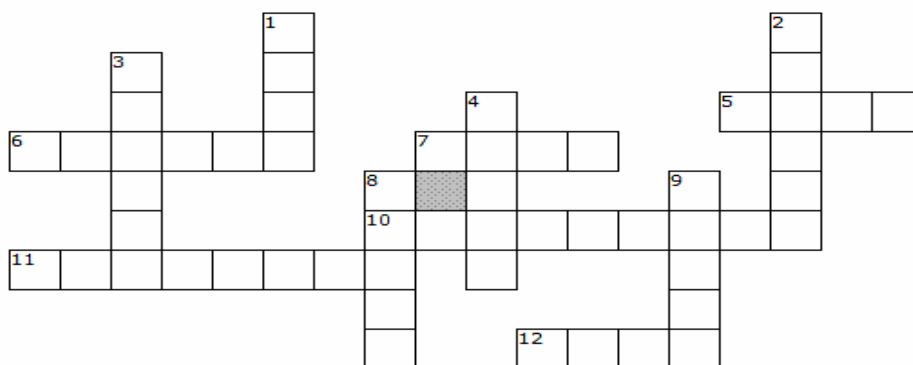
**The Living Water (The Holy Spirit):** fulfilling peace

**The Flowing River:** when your soul is satisfied, you naturally begin to minister, love, to others. ~ AI

# Filled with the Holy Spirit

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21 (NIV)



## ACROSS

5. Make something to be full
6. To be totally surprised
7. Something that is pure and good, such as God's Word
10. The day the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles
11. Means of communication used by the people of a particular county
12. A destructive burning

## DOWN

1. Blowing air, especially that which would move the leaves on a tree
2. A being that cannot be seen, like a ghost
3. The place where God lives
4. Something that can be heard
8. To say words, to use the voice
9. A building which people live in

HEAVEN	SPIRIT	FIRE	HOLY
WIND	PENTECOST	LANGUAGE	SPEAK
SOUND	FILL	HOUSE	AMAZED

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

FIRE	PENTECOST	WONDERS	AMAZED
HEAR	OTHER	SPEAK	WIND
SPIRIT	BLOWING	TONGUES	HOLY
DECLARE	LANGUAGE	SOUND	FILLED

Sermon4kids

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