

Peel Valley Congregation

Hallsville & West Tamworth



8 November 2026 **Rev Geoff Flynn** **Rev Sam Sadrata** **Meg Mangan** **(Pastoral Care)**

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)
The Parable of the Ten Virgins

1 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will
be like ten virgins who took their lamps and
went out to meet the bridegroom.
2 Five of them were foolish and five were
wise.
3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did
not take any oil with them.
4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars
along with their lamps.
5 The bridegroom was a long time in
coming, and they all became drowsy and
fell asleep.
6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'
7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed
their lamps.
8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give
us some of your oil; our lamps are going
out.'
9 "'No,' they replied, 'there may not be
enough for both us and you. Instead, go to
those who sell oil and buy some for
yourselves.'
10 "But while they were on their way to buy
the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins
who were ready went in with him to the
wedding banquet. And the door was shut.
11 "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,'
they said, 'open the door for us!'
12 "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't
know you.'
13 "Therefore keep watch, because you do
not know the day or the hour.

When you can see God in small things, you'll see God in all things. ~ Unknown

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

Psalm 78 (NIV)

1 My people, hear my teaching;
listen to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth with a parable;
I will utter hidden things, things from of
old—
3 things we have heard and known,
things our ancestors have told us.
4 We will not hide them from their
descendants;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has
done.
5 He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,
6 so the next generation would know
them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
7 Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.
8 They would not be like their ancestors—
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
whose hearts were not loyal to God,
whose spirits were not faithful to him.

Every day is a gift from God. Learn to focus on the Giver and enjoy the gift! ~ Joyce

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 18**

Pastoral Care: **Meg Mangan** **0476 375 989**

Elder: Margaret Crowell

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH



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

IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray that the results of the USA elections don't trigger unrest.
- Our prayers continue for the people throughout the world impacted by war.
- We pray for people suffering from flu and hay-fever at this time of year.
- We give thanks for recent falls of rain

Meg's Musings

Last weekend I attended a "Quiet Day" held on a farm near Gunnedah.

It was interesting to stop, and to pay closer attention to a few things throughout the day - a song, a Psalm, and a photograph.

The contrast between that and Kairos , held the previous weekend, was quite pronounced.

At Kairos there was lots of activity, lots of changes of pace, and lots of interaction between people.

God was present in both the hubbub of Kairos, and the peace of the quiet day.

If fact, God is always present - we just sometimes forget to be aware of him!

Blessings from Meg



God is the friend of silence. See how nature - trees, flowers, grass- grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence. ~ Saint Ignatius

Gratitude is a lamp.

A lamp does not change the room.
It changes what you notice in it.
Gratitude can work like that too.
It does not erase difficulty.
It stops darkness from being
the only thing you see. ~ Komal Kamble



When you want to find Truth as God, the only inevitable means is love, that is nonviolence. ~ Mahatma Gandhi

CHURCH SERVICES 11am **West Tam**

15 November **~ Rev Sam**
22 November **~ Meg**
29 November **~ Combined service Fijians City**

Australian War Memorial

The silence at 11 am is said to have started with an Australian.

In May 1919, Edward George Honey, a Melbourne journalist and First World War veteran living in London, wrote to the London Evening News. He asked for five minutes of silence to honour those who had died in the war.

Later that year in October, South African Sir Percy Fitzpatrick proposed a silence on Armistice Day across the Empire. During the war, Cape Town had stopped at noon whenever South African troops suffered heavy losses on the Western Front.

King George V agreed. Both men attended a trial at Buckingham Palace, after which the silence was shortened to two minutes. It's still unclear whether they ever met.

On 6 November 1919, the King asked people across the Empire for "a complete suspension of all our normal activities" at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Australians first kept the silence five days later. Since 1997, we have been urged to pause for one minute at 11 am every Remembrance Day.



Remembrance Day 11/11/2026

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They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."

~ "For the Fallen" *(1914)*

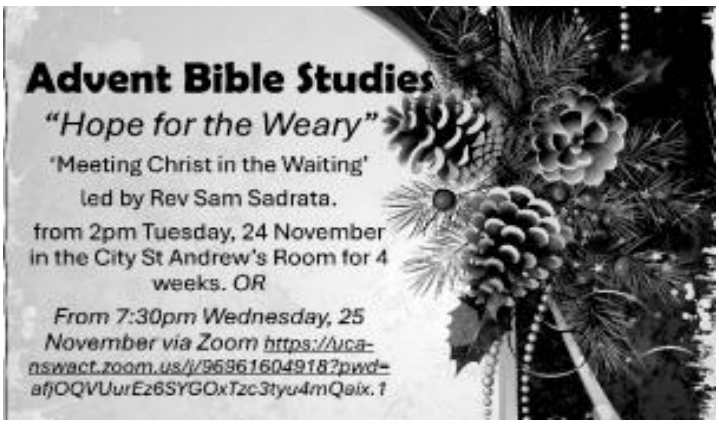


Poppy, poppy, what do you say?
Wear me on Remembrance Day.

Poppy, poppy, what do you tell?
Many soldiers in battle fell.

Poppy, poppy, what should we know?
That peace on Earth should grow, grow, grow!

~ unknown



Southside - Nativity and Angel display

26 -27 November.
Friday 6 - 8pm
Saturday, 9 -3 pm.



Gold coin donation,
Devonshire Teas are available for purchase.
Hand made Christmas decorations and gifts available for purchase.

Ministers Reflection for TRUC newsletters
What Are We Keeping Alive?

Jesus tells the story of ten bridesmaids waiting for a bridegroom. All ten carried lamps. All ten are waiting. All ten grow tired. And all ten fell asleep. From the outside, there is very little to distinguish the wise from the foolish. Yet, when the bridegroom finally arrives, the difference becomes clear. Five have brought extra oil; five have not.

It is an uncomfortable parable because the foolish bridesmaids were not necessarily people who had abandoned their faith. They were there. They were waiting. They had lamps. They simply had not prepared for the possibility that the waiting would take longer than expected.

Perhaps that is where the parable begins to challenge us. Is it possible to look ready without being ready? Is possible to carry the appearance of faith without tending to the life of faith.

Faith requires attention. It requires patience, prayer, courage and a willingness to keep making room for God, even when the bridegroom seems delayed and the night grows long.

Psalm 78 takes this challenge in another direction. The psalmist speaks of telling the next generation the stories of God's faithfulness, so that they might place their confidence in God. There is a beautiful connection between these two readings. Matthew asks whether we have tended to the oil in our lamps; Psalm 78 asks what we are passing on to those who follow us.

What will the next generation inherit from us? Will they inherit buildings, traditions, rosters and memories of what the church once was? Or will they inherit a living faith – a faith that has wrestled with doubt, endured hardship, practiced compassion and discovered the faithfulness of God through every season?

Perhaps our greatest responsibility is not simply to keep the doors of the church open, but to keep the light of Christ alive in the lives of those who gather within them and those who live beyond them.

And that brings us to a challenging question to reflect on deeply. If someone were to inherit my faith, what would they receive?

The bridegroom's delay reminds us that faithfulness is often formed in the waiting. Psalm 78 reminds us that faithfulness must also be shared. For the question is not simply whether we are waiting for Christ. It is whether, in the waiting, our lives are bearing witness to him.

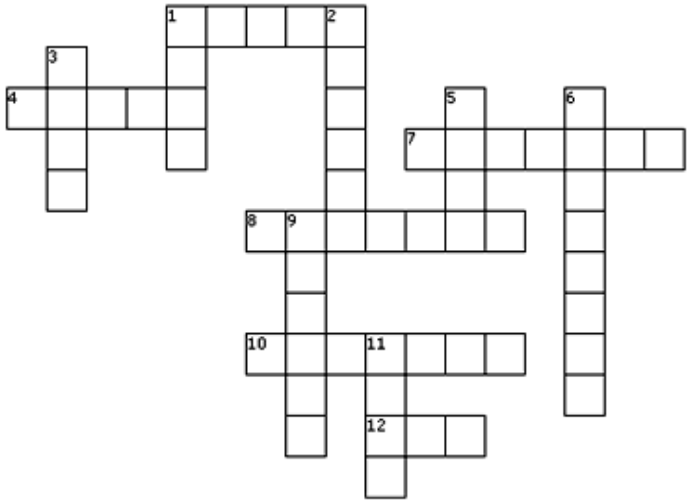
Amen *Rev Sam*



The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

Matthew 25:1-13





ACROSS

1. To observe or look at something
4. Devices used to produce light
7. Someone who does not use good judgment is _____.
8. A feast or meal held in recognition of some person or occasion
10. Ceremony in which a man and a woman are married.
12. A liquid that is often used to make fuel.

DOWN

1. Someone who has good judgment and makes good decisions is _____.
2. Where God lives
3. Made a sound like a bell
5. To arrive at a particular place; the opposite of go
6. 12 o'clock at night
9. Not awake
11. A swinging or sliding cover over the place where someone usually enters a room

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

Sermon4kids

FOOLISH	MEET	DROWSY	VIRGINS	BANQUET
MIDNIGHT	WEDDING	TRIMMED	RANG	KINGDOM
BRIDEGROOM	LAMPS	WISE	WATCH	COME
DOOR	ASLEEP	HEAVEN	OIL	WOKE

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