

# **Peel Valley Congregation**

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

**17 November 2024** 

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## Mark 13:1-8 (NLT)

### Jesus Speaks about the Future

**13** As Jesus was leaving the Temple that day, one of his disciples said, "Teacher, look at these magnificent buildings! Look at the impressive stones in the walls."

<sup>2</sup> Jesus replied, "Yes, look at these great buildings. But they will be completely demolished. Not one stone will be left on top of another!"

<sup>3</sup> Later, Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives across the valley from the Temple. Peter, James, John, and Andrew came to him privately and asked him, <sup>4</sup> "Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will show us that these things are about to be fulfilled?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus replied, "Don't let anyone mislead you, <sup>6</sup> for many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah.' They will deceive many.

<sup>7</sup> And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don't panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won't follow immediately.

<sup>8</sup> Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in many parts of the world, as well as famines. But this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.

## Other Lectionary Readings:

1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25a



Prayer is the pulse of life. ~ Andrew Murray

#### 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

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

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush

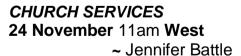
# Christ, whose glory fills the skies

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only Light, Sun of righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shade of night; Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by Thee; joyless is the day's return, till Thy mercy's beams I see, till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief; more and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

~ Charles Wesley (1740)

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." ~ Dr Suess.

4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets
7:30am 24 November





7 11 11 11 11

If the world was blind how many people would you impress? ~ Boonaa Mohammed

Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
Open 9:30 to 1:00pm
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.



# P

#### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Bruce Jarrett, Peter Scorgie and Laurie Mangan who are all in hospital.
- We pray for Bruce's family, as they search for respite care for Bruce.
- ➤ We pray for Beth's daughter Tina, who is in intensive care in Westmead Hospital.
- We also pray for Beth, who has had an exhausting, and difficult month.
- We thank God for the care provided when we need it.

## **Meg's Musings**

There is a lady in the same ward as Laurie who obviously has a brain injury, as well as other physical injuries.

Her "volume control" is non-existent, and everything she utters is at the top of her - very loud - voice. For some time, most of what she said was strings of obscenities.

On Sunday, one of the nurses played some country music for her, which she obviously enjoyed.

During Sunday afternoon and evening, and occasionly on Monday, the ward was treated to her rendition of "Oh, my darling Clementine".

It wasn't in the least bit tuneful or polished or clear but it was a true breakthrough. She was displaying positive emotions.

Each day since then, there seems to have been other little improvements showing.

She is still shouting very loudly, and is still quite difficult to manage. But the simple kindness of a nurse who could put herself in the patient's situation has made such a difference.

God doesn't ask us to do big things - He just asks us to do what we can.



Blessing from Meg



#### Words from Rev Sam Sadrata

There is a song out by a secular musician – 'Shaggy' who sang 'strength of a woman'. In that song, he describes literally the strength of a woman, but nothing comes close to what women go through when they give birth to a child. On a side note, I almost lost a finger from when Mary squeezed my hands trying to endure childbirth. Marica (our daughter) is now walking, and sometimes Mary and I think back to the time she gave birth to her. 'Push slowly, breathe, you're almost there,' said the midwife. For Mary, she just wanted to get it over and done with but trusted the instruction of the midwife.

Our Gospel text portrays a 'site-seeing' expedition the disciples goes on with Jesus. 'Wow look at that building' 'woah look at those giant stones, what magnificent buildings'. And as the text progresses Jesus points out to them the destruction of the Temple and signs of the end times. Do not be disturbed or troubled by all these things. Do not be frightened. To me, it feels as though Jesus tells the disciples that he's not talking about an ending but about a beginning, the birthing of new life. He's describing a series of events that must take place to allow for wholeness, fullness, and completion. It's a text about hope. It's a text about opportunities and possibilities. It is a gospel about finding meaning and new life. And who among doesn't sometimes wonder, worry, or even become alarmed about our future and the future of the world?

Extensive self-reflections, I have come to realize that when I become concerned about the future I'm not really focused on the unknown and a time yet to come. I am more focused on the known and the present time. I want to know if my transition from Sydney to Tamworth will be ok? I want to know if the ministry that I am called to is working? Will the centre hold? Will my relationships across the Tamworth Regional Churches endure? Will the start of the new Fijian English bi-lingual service continue to give identity, meaning, and refuge to all? Will the systems I've created for my life, wellbeing, and happiness remain intact? Are the foundations of my life stable and strong enough to last?

What if, in those times when it feels like our life is shifting and separating and everything is being thrown down, we would trust the Divine Midwife and just push a little? Push with faith, push with hope, push with love, push with anticipation of something new.

From the minister's perspective, with the number of baptisms and baptism request we have done, a start of a new worship service, it definitely feels like new life being witnessed within the life of the Tamworth Regional Churches.

Rev Sam Sadrata

Chuang Tzu and his friend were walking along a river bank and stopped for a moment to gaze at the water.

Chuang Tzu exclaimed: Look at those fish, how they' re enjoying themselves! "
How would you know?

You aren't a fish to know if they're having a good time!" snorted the friend.
Chuang Tzu reply:

- "You are not me either, so how would you know that I don't know the fish are having fun?"
- \* Others' perceptions are as valid as yours.

Think about that before jumping to conclusions! ~ Buddha Groove



The shepherds had an angel,
The wise men had a star,
But what have I, a little child,
To guide me home from far,
Where glad stars sing together
And singing angels are?—

Lord Jesus is my Guardian, So I can nothing lack: The lambs lie in His Bosom Along life's dangerous track; The wilful lambs that go astray He bleeding fetches back.

Christ watches me His little lamb, Cares for me day and night, That I may be His Own in heaven: So angels clad in white Shall sing their "Glory, glory" For my sake in the height.

~ Christina Georgina Rossetti



"My husband and I went through the McDonald's driveway window and I gave the cashier a \$5 bill.

Our total was \$4.25, so I also handed her 25c.

She said, 'you gave me too much money.' I said, 'Yes I know, but this way you can just give me a dollar back.'

She sighed and went to get the manager who asked me to repeat my request.

I did so, and he handed me back the 25c, and said 'We're sorry but we don't do that kind of thing.'

The cashier then proceeded to give me back 75 cents in change.

Do not confuse the people at MacDonalds.

~ Loving Grandmas' Laughter Lounge

## growlery

(grou"ler e)

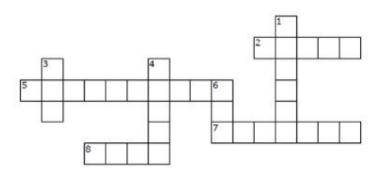
A place of refuge or sanctuary for use while one is out of sorts or in an ill humor.

# Be Careful Whom You Follow

Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many." Mark 13:5-6



Puzzle based on Mark 13:1-8



#### ACROSS

- 2. To stay alert; observe carefully
- A sudden shaking and moving of the Earth's surface
- To mislead; to cause to believe what is not true
- 8. To receive sound with your ears

#### DOWN

- 1. A wide-spread shortage of food
- Armed fighting between countries
- A piece of news spread from person to person
- 6. To be finished

END RUMOR					EARTHQUAKE HEAR			FAMINE DECEIVE			WATCH WAR			
Е	Α	R	Т	Н	Q	U	A	K	E	S	Α	G	U	Н
S	C	V	U	P	P	В	J	N	D	T	F	Т	I	R
V	K	A	Q	В	E	Н	T	М	F	0	A	J	F	T
R	W	L	F	٧	U	N	R	G	0	N	M	K	S	E
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A	Т	M	M	C	Т	Υ	K	D	E	E	E	U	М	H
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А	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	E	٧	В	M	Y
R	0	E	N	H	E	Α	R	P	H	N	W	U	D	Y
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I	BUILDINGS	EARTHQUAKE	WARS	DECEIVE	SITTING	
ı	TEMPLE	HEAR	ALARMED	OLIVES	RISE	
ı	DISCIPLES	NATION	KINGDOM	RUMORS	END	
I	STONES	FAMINE	WATCH	TEACHER	MOUNT	

~ Sermons 4 Kids