

Montesano Presbyterian Church

201 McBryde Ave. East, Montesano, WA 98563

P.O. Box 110 ~ Mailing Address

360.249.3845 ~ montepres.org

Sunday Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.

1883 - 2025

May 2025

FROM THE ROLL TOP DESK OF PASTOR PATRICK...

Luke 22:39-46: Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

What was in the cup?

While in Germany I read a slew of classics, mostly Hemmingway. I read Kipling's, Kim. And I read Steinbeck's, East of Eden. East of Eden was pretty dark and depressing, much like the story of the Joad family in The Grapes of Wrath. Yet, I thought and imagined what it was like to trek west. I asked myself, what drove people west? Early in American history it was riches: a gold rush, exploration, adventure, free land and want. Some fled the

law. Some would flee the Civil War. Some would be cast out of society due to mental illness, crime, gambling etc... Some wanted only wealth through trapping, hides, meat, and the possession of cattle, horses, wood, and material. When the dust bowl hit people went west to survive, new prospects and a better life. All that aside, two words come to mind, Total Depravity. Not much has changed, has it? Humanity is still a troubled lot. As I read the passage from Luke, I felt the drowsiness of grief and I wondered, what was in that cup?

The spiritual use of "The Cup" in Scripture represents more than meets the eye for our humanity and our relationship with God in Christ. There is judgment, and there is suffering, and there is wrath. Still, there is a cup of blessing that overflows, and there is a cup Jesus turns to wine to represent the best he has to offer. There is a cup we share because we are generous, and we want to be with each other in prosperity. We raise a toast to goodness, and we drink from a cup that is sweet and joyful. So why does Jesus poignantly ask his Father, "If you are willing, take this cup from me but not my will, but yours be done." What was in the cup?

Revelation 14:19 shares the darker imagery of what was in that cup. Jesus did not want to drink of the cup that was before him in the garden of Gethsemane. Why? Oh! Patrick, you say, there is not a real cup, it is a metaphor. Or is it? If there was no real cup to drink from, then why did Jesus sweat drops of blood? Why agonize in prayer in the darkness of a forest away from anyone who could see or hear him? No, there was a cup. And there was an audience that watched as he took the first sip. But what was in the cup? It was a cup of wrath. It was a cursed cup.

And please do not think there is only God's will to be done. That was the heresy of Monothelitism. Yes, two natures, one person, never divided or confused. But Jesus, knows what he will face and what he is about to drink. And he knows he wants none of it. But not his will be done. So, he reaches for the cup.

Luke 22:20 "And after supper he took another cup of wine and said, this is the new covenant in my blood shed for you, do this in remembrance of me." Every time you

come to the table this cup of the new covenant is a way to remember Jesus as he taught his disciples how to follow him, how to be more like him.

At Passover everyone drank four healthy portions from the cup with the idea they may not get anymore and to cherish what they had at that moment. Jesus is the cup they were to be drinking from in that moment. The idea is Jesus is our portion, and he is all we need to sustain our faith. He drank the cup on our behalf that we would receive mercy and grace as he filled our cup with the blessings of faith, hope, and love that lead to salvation.

This is a question I would like you to answer. Here is your mission if you choose to accept

it. Share on our Fellowship Hall pin board - What was in the cup? And what is in your cup today? I look forward to reading your thoughts.

Sincerely,

P. COBB <><

Christian Ed

Did you know Melani Cobb and Teresa Snow have a Youth Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning? Sunday School has been focused on introducing the Bible. They are continuing to go thru each chapter of the Bible, reviewing the highlights and major stories. The Youth Sunday School is welcoming ages 13 and up.

The Adult Sunday School meets in the large classroom at the end of hall on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. We are currently studying *Not a Fan* by Kyle Idleman. Everyone is welcome.



Congregational Life

Our annual Mother's Day cheesecake celebration will follow worship on May 11th. Tamra Robins has volunteered to provide the cheesecakes as she has in the past two years, so you know the cheesecake will be delicious. There will also be a gluten-free cheesecake. Everyone one is welcome to celebrate the special women in their lives, who have provided love, wisdom, and support. Please come and celebrate with us.

On Sunday, May 18th at 4:00 p.m., we are hosting a Thank You Supper for all the pastors and their families and EPC churches and leadership, who supported us with Sunday, Christmas Eve, and Ash Wednesday messages, prayers, and administrative support and guidance during Pastor Patrick's absence. Congregational Life will be providing pulled pork and salads. Jan Morrill will be making her famous beans. We are asking our church family to provide desserts. Please plan to attend to join in fellowship with the pastors we have come to love and to thank them for their love and support of MPC.

Union Gospel Mission

Greetings and blessings Brothers and Sisters. I can hardly express how grateful the people were that dined on pot-roasted meatballs, wide egg noodles, ambrosia salad and cookies. More people went back for seconds than I have previously witnessed. Maybe it was Tom's message of Christ's journey to the cross and our salvation through his resurrection. He is Risen Indeed!

Please sign up to help prepare the mission meal. If you would like to donate money, please note that on the reference line on your

check or if donating cash, on the envelope and put in the Joash chest located at the back of the sanctuary. If you have questions about the Mission, don't hesitate to talk to me.

Tamra Robins

Worship

Lenten Suppers

What a great time with Fellowship over soup and bread, then teaching and Worship led by Jeff Snow. Thank you Jeff, for the preparation you put into these weeks and all you shared with us. Let's do this again!

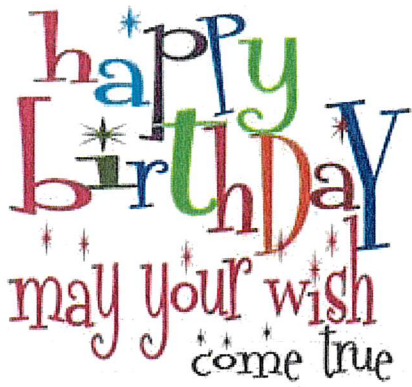
Tuesday Prayer-time

On Tuesdays at 11pm we meet for prayer and everyone is welcome! In this time we pray for needs of our congregation we are aware of, other needs brought to our attention as well as for our country & our world. Those of us who take part are blessed by this time together; if this is something you would like to be a part of, please come.

Praying Church

We are a praying church and we want to pray for your families and friends who are in need. Prayer chains tend to break down in the middle - our 'chain' is actually a long list of prayer warriors who are notified by email when someone needs our prayers. If you are in need of prayer, contact either Peggy Gillespie or Edie Johnson

We gather for group prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join us to pray for concerns and blessings for answered prayer.



JoAnne Cookston
Carol Fischback
Edie Johnson
Danielle Parker
Tom Robins

Coming May Events

***Sunday School** Join us for Adult and Youth every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

***Game Day** ...Come and join us for Game Day if you enjoy playing games! We laugh a lot, and eat snacks that we bring to share! We meet at church on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, at 1:00 p.m.
Games Days for the month of May will be May 8 and 22
If you have any questions, or would like for information, please contact with Diana Hill or Randi Toyra.

***Men's Breakfast Bible Study** is open to all men of the church. They meet for breakfast Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m.

***May Birthday Lunch** Each month we celebrate those having a birthday with a lunch held at Gepetto's Italian restaurant. This month the lunch will be held on Monday, May 5, at 11:30 a.m. Come and help us celebrate!

***Women's Bible Study...** is open to all women of the church. Bible study meets every Friday 11:30 a.m. They are currently studying 1 Peter.

***Grief group** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. This group is led by Angela Carter.

***Youth Group...** Will meet on Thursday, May 22, 7:00 p.m - 8:30 p.m. All youth 6th - 12th grade are invited!

Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, May 6, 6:00 p.m.

Session Meeting

Thursday, May 8, 6:00 p.m.

***AARP Class**Pat Anderson, an AARP certified driving instructor, will be teaching an AARP 50+ Driving class here at MPC. Below is a schedule of days in which the class will be taught. Please *TEXT* Pat at 206.854.8961, with your name, phone number and date you would like to sign up for. Cost for the class is \$20 for AARP Members / \$25 for Non Members.

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m

May 13 & 14



Who's Doing What...

Reader of God's Word

May 04 ~ Melani Cobb
May 11 ~ Emily Meier
May 18 ~ Jan Morrill
May 25 ~ Peggy Gillespie
June 01 ~ David Mandt
June 08 ~ Garrett Dalan
June 15 ~ Randi Toyra
June 22 ~ Pam Hildreth
June 29 ~ Tom Robins

Greeters

May 4 ~

Diana Hill

May 11 & May 18

Debby Hammer & Randi Toyra

May 25 & June 01

Edie Johnson & Pat Willis

June 08 & June 15

Peggy Gillespie & Sue McCombs

June 22 & June 29

Mel & Gale Broughton

Coffee Hour

May 04 ~ OPEN

May 11 ~ Mother's Day Cheesecake
Fellowship

May 18 ~ EPC Appreciation Supper

May 25 ~ OPEN

June 01 ~ OPEN

June 08 ~ OPEN

June 15 ~ Father's Day Strawberry
Shortcake

June 22 ~ OPEN

June 29 ~ OPEN

*“With all your heart you
must trust the Lord and not
your own judgment. Always let
Him lead you, and He will clear
the road for you to follow.”*

—Proverbs 3:5-6

