



The Weekly Chalice

May 7th 2026

Sumner First Christian Church | 432 Wood Ave, Sumner, WA | sumnerfcc.org

"I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" -John 16.33

I grew up in a family of electricians--my grandfather was an electrician, my dad was an electrician and my brother is an electrician. I have a great deal of respect for the complexities and danger of electrical work. And while I don't fully understand all things about electricity, I understand the concept of electrical grounding which is defined as: *a safety system that connects electrical circuits and metal equipment to the earth, providing a low-resistance path for excess electricity to escape. It prevents shock, fire, and equipment damage by discharging stray voltage, lightning strikes, or fault currents safely into the ground rather than through a person.*

In addition to electricity, there are other forces that we human beings need protection from. We need protection from the elemental forces of nature--heat, cold, wind, rain, snow--to survive. These forces are symbolically considered in our Biblical narrative as chaotic. In Creation, God speaks the Word and the brings order to chaos, separating the water of the earth from the water of the sky. Jesus' walking on the water is a symbolic act of the divine overcoming the powerfully chaotic nature of earthly elements.

It can be grounding, protecting, to say as a part of faith, that we hope in a God who has power and dominion over the chaos of the earthly elements. God made it, God controls it. Of course, we struggle with this in the face of natural disasters where there is tremendous loss of life and suffering. And we struggle with it in light of not just the chaos of nature, but the chaos of human beings.

We see, daily, the news of human beings wielding power and politics to bring about division and chaos. We do not know what to make of a world that sometimes seems like its spinning out of control.

These are the times, dear friends, for grounding. For breathing in and breathing out. For noticing what is around you. For engaging with the people you know and love. For showing up in your community and being with others. These are safety mechanisms that can help buffer the shock of the chaos around us and help us find ways to live through it with integrity, peace and Christ's heart at our center.

The words of Jesus in John 16:33 are grounding as well. When we feel the chaos, we are reminded to turn to his word. Read the red letters and know that Jesus said all these things so that we might have peace. And as we read the stories and feel Jesus close to us, we can remember his words, that though we face hardship, we can have courage for he has already conquered all things.

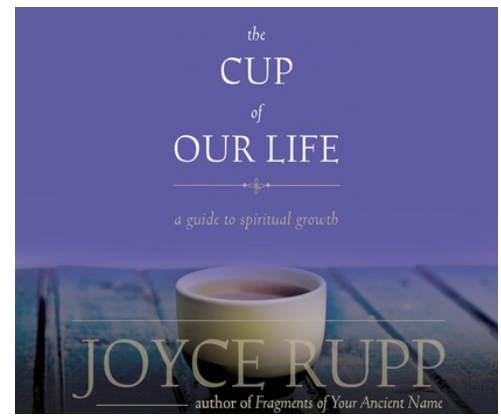
-Rochelle+



Spring Flower & Plant Sale

Sunday, May 10th following worship

We are grateful to Becky's Baskets who is again donating beautiful hanging baskets, flower starts and vegetable starts for our Spring sale on Sunday, May 10th following worship. Speward the word and be sure to come by for your gardening needs!



Join us for our next Friday study series: *The Cup of Our Life* by Joyce Rupp, Fridays from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall beginning May 1st.

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 12:00 pm-1:30 pm The Cup of Our Life Bible Study 12:00 pm AA	2 12:00 pm AA
3 9:30 Worship & Wonder 10:30 Worship Service	4 12:00 pm AA	5 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	6 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters 7:00 pm SLAA	7 12:00 pm AA 5:00 pm Elders Meeting 7:00 pm GA	8 12:00 pm-1:30 pm The Cup of Our Life Bible Study 12:00 pm AA	9 9:00 am-12:00 pm SCP Clean Day 12:00 pm AA
10 10:30 Worship Service Board Meeting after Service 12:00 pm Plant Sale	11 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm SCP Board Meeting	12 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA 6:00 pm SCP Spring Event	13 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters 7:00 pm SLAA	14 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	15 12:00 pm-1:30 pm The Cup of Our Life Bible Study 12:00 pm AA	16 12:00 pm AA
17 10:30 Worship Service	18 12:00 pm AA	19 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	20 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters 7:00 pm SLAA	21 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	22 12:00 pm-1:30 pm The Cup of Our Life Bible Study 12:00 pm AA SCP Last Day	23 10:30 pm Youth Group, Craft 19 12:00 pm AA
24 10:30 Worship Service	25 Memorial Day 12:00 pm AA	26 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	27 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters 7:00 pm SLAA	28 12:00 pm AA 6:00 pm Book Club via Zoom 7:00 pm GA	29 12:00 pm-1:30 pm The Cup of Our Life Bible Study 12:00 pm AA	30 12:00 pm AA
31 10:30 Worship Service			**Add on to the 27th 9:00 am-12:00 pm SCP Clean Day			