



EMMANUEL REFORMED CHURCH, SPRINGFIELD, SD

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Home Worship Guide

Worship the risen and reigning Lord Jesus together with us.

GOD GATHERS US

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

Read aloud:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

— 1 Peter 1:3-5 —

OUR OPENING PRAYER

If worshiping with your spouse and/or children, have one person pray this aloud for all.

We give you thanks, great God,
for the hope we have in Jesus,
who died but is risen and rules over all.

We praise you for his presence with us.
Because he lives, we look for eternal life,
knowing that nothing past, present, or yet to come
can separate us from your great love
made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

If you choose, you are invited to listen to and/or sing along with [“Goodness of God,”](#) by Bethel Music.

OUR PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We will celebrate communion together in our homes again next Sunday, separately. In preparation for that celebration, we confess our sins to God in humility, mindful of our need for His grace and mercy.

If worshiping with your spouse and/or children, have one person pray this aloud for all.

If worshipping alone, pray this or your own personal confession of sin.

Lord God,
bring new life where we are worn and tired;
new love where we have turned hard-hearted;
forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded;
and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit
where we are prisoners of ourselves.

Redeem, renew, and reconcile us
to yourself and to one another
that we may be your faithful people,
obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who rules the world and is head of the church, his body.
Amen.

GOD’S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

If worshiping with your spouse and/or children, have one person read these verses aloud for all.

If worshiping aloud, read these verses either aloud or silently. Consider journaling your prayer of response to these promises!

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison [in hell], because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

— 1 Peter 3:18-22 —

Believe this good news, and live in it!

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Watch the April 26 video [“We Are: the Body \(part 2\)”](#) at this time.

GOD SENDS US

DISCUSSION

Discuss with each other, or journal on your own, what you hear the Holy Spirit saying to you in this morning's sermon.

- *How is God challenging you today?*
- *How is God comforting you today?*
- *What would you like to put into action?*

You are welcome to sing [“They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”](#) (#284, v.1,4)

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son

And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

If you are worshiping alone, or with your spouse or family, one person should read the prayer prompts aloud. Or, if you choose, two or more can take turns leading.

After each prompt, everyone should respond, "Lord, hear our prayers."

Leader: Let us pray:

Lord God Almighty,

Even now, in crisis, we rejoice in You, and give You thanks.

You alone are our refuge and strength.

We pray for our church family. We pray for the old and the young, the sick and the healthy, the vulnerable and the strong.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for our neighbors, and our communities. We pray for teachers, firefighters, police officers, EMT's, nurses, and doctors.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for the Assisted Living Center and Good Samaritan Society, for the staff and the residents, and their families.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for the Mike Durfee State Prison, for the staff and inmates, and for the Living Stone Prison Church.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for the Bon Homme County Food Pantry, for those who give, and those who receive.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: Lord, we lift up to you our state, and country, and world.

We pray for those who lead us: our governor, our president, our elected representatives. Give them wisdom and truth, that we might have peace.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for those who have to work right now, and for those who cannot work right now.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for the sick, and the dying, and those who are grieving.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for the worried, the lonely, and the fearful.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: We pray for the lost, those who are far from you, and for those who are reaching out in mission and love.

All: Lord, hear our prayers.

Leader: And for the concerns of our own hearts, we pray:
(*You are welcome to lift up your own prayer requests to God.*)

We pray all this in Jesus' name, and we pray as he taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

SENT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Read aloud God's sending and blessing for us, His church:

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

— 1 Peter 3:8-9, 4:8 —

The God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

— 1 Peter 5:10, 14 —