



EMMANUEL REFORMED CHURCH, SPRINGFIELD, SD

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Home Worship Guide

Grace and peace be yours today and always, in the boundless compassion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This worship service relies heavily on Scripture to speak words of peace and tenderness to us in worship. Instead of music, I invite you to respond to these words with healthy pauses of silence.

If worshiping with others in your home, one person can take on the role of the worship leader, reading the prayers and Scripture readings for all.

If you are worshiping alone, you are welcome to read these prayers and passages to yourself in silence, or aloud. Consider having a journal handy, to write down what you hear God saying to you, and to answer Him in writing.

This worship guide is designed to prepare our hearts for the May 3 sermon ["We Are: God's Garden."](#) Following the sermon, Pastor Cody will lead our celebration of communion together in our homes, separately. If you choose to celebrate communion with us as part of this service, make sure to have bread, juice, and the liturgy handout all ready.

Following communion, Pastor Cody will close this worship service with a prayer and blessing.

— Pastor Cody

GOD GATHERS US

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP

All read:

**Since we have died with Christ —
Since we have been raised with Christ! —
we know our life is hidden with Christ in God.**

**Here, now, let us set our minds on things that are above,
where Christ reigns at God's right hand.
And let us set aside our preoccupation with things that are on earth.**

— from Colossians 3:1-3 —

OUR OPENING PRAYER

One reads:

Dear God,
You see us, and hear us, and draw near to us
Always, no matter what.

We turn to You now,
to listen to You, to pray to You, to be with You.

Help us to draw near to You,
To worship You with all our brothers and sisters
In Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

You are welcome to pause here in silence, drawing near to God with all of who you are.

GOD CALLS US TO CONFESSION

One reads:

The Lord God says: "Your salvation is in returning and rest, your strength in quietness and trust."

And even though you run from this quiet, the Lord longs to be gracious to you. He will rise up to show you compassion.

— from Isaiah 30:15, 18a —

OUR PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All read:

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

O Lord, hear my voice!

**Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

**If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?**

**But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

**I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.**

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

**For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.**

**And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.**

— Psalm 130 —

You are welcome to pause here in silence, confessing your sins and addressing your laments to God, in the confidence of God's love for you.

GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

One reads:

Who is there to condemn us?

Only Christ Jesus.

And Jesus died for us,

was raised for us,
sits in power at God's right hand for us,
and intercedes for us!

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

There is nothing in all creation that will be able to separate us from the love of
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

— from Romans 8:33-35a, 39 —

You are welcome to pause here in silence, resting in the love of God for you in Christ Jesus.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Watch the May 3 video ["We Are: God's Garden"](#) at this time.