

**LECTIONARY TEXTS**

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Psalm 148

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52

**Suggested ReClaim texts**

(same)



**COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Grant, almighty God, that the joyous birth of your Son in human flesh may set us free from the old bondage of sin; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Optional Supplications for*)**

**ON THE GOSPEL READING • Luke 2:41-52**

Lord Jesus Christ, your searching parents were anxious to find you, while temple teachers were amazed to hear you. By your Word, keep before us the surprise of the Christmas Gospel, and the boy in whom is found the eternal word, until we also are amazed at his understanding of the Father's house. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR DAILY RENEWAL**

Almighty God, you sent your only Son to take our nature upon himself. Grant that we, having been made alive in him, and having been made your sons and daughters by grace, may be renewed daily in grace and holiness. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR GRACE TO RECEIVE THE WORD**

Lord, you have caused all Scripture to be written for our learning. May we so hear, read, learn, and understand Scripture that, by the enduring guidance of your Word, our hearts may lay firm hold upon the hope you have given us of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR THE CHURCH**

Grant to your church, O Lord, your Holy Spirit, and the wisdom which comes down from heaven, that your Word may not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people that we may serve you in steadfast faith and, in the confession of your name, abide to the end. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR FAITHFUL TEACHERS / MINISTERS**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you commanded us to pray for laborers for the harvest. Supply us with faithful teachers and ministers of your Word, and put your saving Gospel in their hearts and on their lips, that they may teach and preach nothing contrary to your holy Word, that we, being instructed by your Word, may do those things which are pleasing to you. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR THE SICK**

Visit and relieve, O Lord, your servants who are ill, for whom we now make supplication, naming them in our hearts. Bless them with a sure confidence in your care, defend them in danger, and keep them in your lasting peace and safety. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, we thank you that in your great mercy you have given us your holy and blessed Word. And we pray that we may always receive it with thankful hearts, live according to it, increase in faith, hope, and love, and at last obtain eternal salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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