

LECTIONARY TEXTS

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)
 Jer 23:23-29
 Psalm 82
 Heb 11:29—12:2
 Luke 12:49-56

Suggested ReClaim texts
 (same)

**COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and merciful God, increase in us your gifts of faith, hope, and love. And that we may receive what you promise, help us to love what you command; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**ON THE GOSPEL READING**

Gracious God and Father, you sent your Son to be the Prince of Peace, but he causes division and conflict. Why? Enable us to read the signs of his coming as clearly as we read changes in the weather, that when all the forces of sin, death, and hell hurl their fury at him, it means one stronger has come. Equip us for the warfare, Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you that in your great mercy you have given us your holy and blessed Word, by which you also gather your Christian church. We humbly ask you to grant us your Holy Spirit, that we may receive your Word with thankful hearts, and live according to it, and ever increase in Christian faith, hope, and love, and at the last obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR OUR ENEMIES

Our Lord Jesus Christ, you have commanded us to love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, and pray for those who persecute us. We pray for the enemies of our faith who seek our harm, that by your gracious visitation they may be turned from their way and be of one mind with us and with the whole church. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THE UNITY OF THE FAITH

O God, you restore those in error, gather those who stray, and preserve all that are gathered. Grant to all Christian people the gift of unity, that all divisions may be healed, and your flock, united to its true Shepherd, may worthily serve you. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THE SICK

Almighty and everlasting God, the salvation of all who put their trust in you, hear our prayer for your servants who are ill, for whom we implore your help and mercy, that being restored to health, they may give you thanks and praise, with your whole church. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, we thank you that you have taught us what you would have us believe and do. Help us to keep your word in pure hearts, so we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and in death. **Amen.**
