

LECTIONARY TEXTS

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm 145:8-12

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Suggested ReClaim texts
(same)**COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Merciful Father, defender of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is wholesome, and nothing is holy, direct and guide us, that we may use things temporal without losing those things that are eternal; 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 (*Optional Supplications for*)**ON THE GOSPEL READING • Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

Lord, forbid that we play at religion like sullen children seeking only to find fault. Grant us grace to shoulder your yoke, learn from you, and find rest for our souls. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.**FOR HOLINESS**

Lord God, you call your people to be holy as you are holy, to be set apart for your purposes. Help us to put to death all worldliness and waywardness that would render us useless to the redeeming work of your Kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.**FOR OUR NATION**

O God, by your providence you led those who came before us to this land in which they found refuge from oppression and freedom to worship you. We pray that you will always guide our nation in the way of truth and liberty, so that we may never fail in the blessing you have promised to that people whose God is the Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.**FOR FAITHFUL TEACHERS / MINISTERS**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who commanded us to pray for laborers for the harvest, give us faithful teachers and ministers of your Word, and put your saving gospel in their hearts and on their lips, that they may preach nothing contrary to your Word; and that we, being instructed and nurtured, comforted and strengthened by your Word, may do those things which are pleasing to you and beneficial to the mission of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.**FOR THOSE IN AFFLICTION**

Visit and relieve, O Lord, your servants who are ill, for whom we now make supplication, naming them in our hearts. Comfort 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, ever increase in faith, hope, and love, and at the last obtain eternal salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
