

**LECTIONARY TEXTS**

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

**Suggested ReClaim texts**

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 or  
Luke 1:26-38  
Romans 16:25-27  
John 1:14-18



**COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, and with great might help us, that whatever is hindered by our sins, may by your grace and mercy be readily accomplished, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

**ON THE RCL GOSPEL READING • Luke 1:26-38**

Eternal Father, most high God, you overshadowed Mary, and she bore a child, whom you declared the everlasting King. With Mary we bow in faith before the unfathomable mystery of his birth, and ask, "Let it be for us according to your word." Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**ON THE ReClaim GOSPEL READING • John 1:14-18**

Lord Jesus Christ, incarnate Word, made man. No one has ever seen God; you have made seeable the unseeable and brought him into view. Fill us anew with the incredible joy of Christmas, God with us abiding. 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 MILITARY**

Almighty God, be with all who serve in the military forces, especially \_\_\_\_\_. Give them courage and strength, and spare them from harm and destruction. Let hope and comfort attend their families, and grant a speedy resolution with a just and lasting peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**THANKS AND PRAISE TO GOD**

We give you thanks, O Lord, and praise your holy name, for you are good and your mercy endures forever. You created us and you sustain us. You redeemed us and you sanctify us. You give bread for the body and you refresh our souls with your life-giving Spirit. You take away the burden of our sins, comfort us in every sorrow, and bless us with more than we can ask or think. To you be glory in the church forevermore. 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.**

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