

LECTIONARY TEXTS

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

Suggested ReClaim texts

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Romans 15:4-13
Luke 1:26-38 (The Annunciation)



COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son, so that by his coming we may be made ready to serve you with pure minds: through your Son, Jesus Christ, 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 RCL GOSPEL READING • Luke 3:1-6

Lord Jesus Christ, John came to awaken expectation and direct preparation for your appearing. Make us to hear in John the voice that is crying to be heard, that by the preaching of your Word, we too may look for you and prepare. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

ON THE ReClaim GOSPEL READING • Luke 1:26-38

Lord Jesus Christ, Gabriel disclosed to Mary that the Most High would overshadow her and her son would be Emmanuel, "God with us abiding"! We pray, Let it be to us according to your word. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THE BLESSINGS OF REDEMPTION

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give you thanks that in your great mercy you sent your only Son to become incarnate, and to redeem us from sin and everlasting death. We pray that you would enlighten our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that we may always truly thank you for your grace, and may comfort ourselves with the same in every time of trial and temptation. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THE CHURCH

O Lord, hear the prayers of your church, and deliver us from all adversity and error, so that we may serve you in safety and freedom, and grant us your peace in our time. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR OUR MILITARY

Gracious Father, be with our military personnel, those who return home and those on active duty. Grant your help and healing that whatever their need, they may be restored to their waiting families and resume their normal lives. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THOSE DEPARTED

We give thanks, everlasting Father, for your servants who have departed this life in faith, and now share the joys of your heavenly Kingdom. We humbly ask that, with them, we may live in Christ and die in him, and finally awaken in his likeness to life everlasting. 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.**
