

LECTIONARY TEXTS

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

Isaiah 62:6-12
 Psalm 97
 Titus 3:4-7
 Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (Optional Supplications for)

ON THE GOSPEL READING • Luke 2:8-20

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, may the joyous birth of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, fulfill in us his purpose in coming, that we may have life and have it more abundantly. Help us to hear anew the angelic message, and fill us with all joy in believing. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

THANKS TO FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT

We thank you, God the Father, for giving your only Son that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life. We thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, that you have borne in your body all our sins, and blotted out all our transgressions. We thank you, Lord the Holy Spirit, for working in our hearts such confidence that we know of nothing else in which to trust for our salvation except Jesus Christ and him crucified. Grant, O God, that we may firmly believe that all our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake, and so enlighten us by your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully follow the Lord Jesus until we see him face to face in eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THE CHURCH

Look in mercy upon your church, O Lord, which you have bought with a great price. Keep us from giving offense to the Gospel and bind us together in the unity of the Spirit. Grant that our children, baptized in your name, may daily obtain their promised cleansing. And to all who commune with you, at your table, grant forgiveness, peace, and life eternal. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR MOTHERS

Heavenly Father, bless all mothers who adopt or give birth to children, and who nurture them in the bonds of family love. Grant them wisdom, strength, and patience, and the joy of seeing the fruition of their labor. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE IMPRISONED FOR THE FAITH

We ask your mercy and help, O Lord, for all who are persecuted, falsely accused, wrongly imprisoned, and tortured, for confessing your name. Strengthen them with an awareness of our solidarity with them. Grant them relief from suffering, and give wisdom to the international community in considering how to come to their aid. 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.**
