

**LECTIONARY TEXTS**

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

Isaiah 49:8-16a

Psalm 131

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34

**Suggested ReClaim texts**

(same)



**COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord, we ask that you mercifully hear our prayers and, having set us free from the bonds of our sin, defend us from all evil; 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**

O Lord, keep us from distrust of your fatherly care whenever we become anxious about our earthly needs. Direct us instead to seek first your Kingdom and righteous. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR THE RESTORATION OF THOSE WHO HAVE ERRED**

Gracious God and Father, hear our intercession for those who have left the faith, those who have wandered, or who are in doubt or temptation through neglect of your Word. Visit them in your fatherly way and show them the error of their way. Bring them safely back that they may again find delight in you and be wise in the way of life eternal. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE AND HELP**

Heavenly Father, you enable us both to will and to do those things which are good and acceptable in your sight. Let your hand be over us and your Holy Spirit within us, and lead us in knowledge and obedience to your Word, that we may come to eternal life now and forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR THE CHURCH**

Grant to your church, O Lord, your Holy Spirit, and the wisdom which comes down from heaven. May your Word not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**FOR THE UNBORN**

O Lord, creator of life, guard and preserve the unborn, the work of your own hand, and be with mothers who carry them. Bring them both safely through peril to the joy of life. 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.**

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.**

-----