

LECTIONARY TEXTS

RCL (Revised Common Lectionary)

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 95:1-7a

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

Suggested ReClaim texts



COLLECT / PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up, we pray, the wills of your faithful people, O Lord, to bring forth bountifully the fruit of good works, that they may, by you, be bountifully rewarded; 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

ON THE GOSPEL READING • Matthew 25:31-46

Lord Jesus Christ, Savior and final judge of all, when you come in your glory to judge the sheep and the goats, may we be found among those who responded to human need, who did unto others as we would have done unto you. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR CONTENTMENT

Protect us, O Lord, from distrust of your fatherly care, whenever we become overly anxious about our earthly needs, and direct us anew to live for the hallowing of your name, the coming of your Kingdom, and the doing of your will. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR LOVE TO GOD

Grant to us your servants, O Lord, such health of mind and body, that we may love you with all our strength, and with our whole heart perform those things that are pleasing to you. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR GUIDANCE

O Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet not trod, and through perils still unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us. Lord, in mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR MOTHERS

Almighty God, giver of life, bless all mothers who, in order to bring forth human life and familial joys, endure the dangers and distress of giving birth. Watch over them in their travail, deliver them from danger, and grant them the joy of birth. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

FOR THOSE IN AFFLICTION

O Lord, comforter of the sorrowing and strength of the weak, hear our prayers for all who suffer illness and distress that, whatever their needs, they may receive and know your help and comfort. 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.**
