

Year A RCL PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

In faith, let us pray to the Lord, saying....

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, Good Shepherd, Righteous King, Light of the World,
We come to you in faith,
Trusting that You care for our well-being,
That You always lead us into goodness and life,
That you nourish us with the joy of your presence
That you are near to us, even in darkness,
And That you promise to shelter us forever.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord, you uncover all things.
You know every detail of the plight of the world.
You see in this moment the darkness of our self-interest, violence, brutality,
injustice, hatred and fear.
Have mercy on the world, Sovereign Lord.
And shed abroad the light of Your healing love.

I invite you to pray for the world and her leaders, remembering especially...

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for your church throughout the world.
Teach us to walk as children of the light,
And give us a hunger for all that is good and right and true.
Enable us to discern what is pleasing to You,
To awaken from the works of darkness,
And to in everything turn toward your light, O Christ.

I invite you to pray for the church throughout the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer because of sin and human evil.
We remember the abused, the enslaved, the imprisoned, the orphaned, the
widowed, the rejected and slandered, and those injured by addictions and despair.
We pray for the depressed, the lonely and forgotten, for those weighed down by
anxiety and guilt, the bereft and grieving, and for anyone whose spirit has been
crushed and deeply wounded.
We remember the starving, the sick, the refugees, the poor, the homeless, the
terminally ill, and those crippled by pain and infirmity.
The groaning of the world is too much for us to bear.
Come quickly to us, Lord Jesus, you who took on flesh and understand all our pain.

I invite you to pray for the needs of others.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, keep us near to you this week.
Give us a hunger for your Word,
And help us to make space to listen to you.
We confess our need for you:
For your wisdom and guidance,
For your protection and provision,
For your help and comfort.
In every area of our lives we need you, Lord,
And we ask that you would be our daily portion.

I invite your prayers for the upcoming week..

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Look in the deep places of our beings, and create in us clean hearts.
Give us a right abhorrence for our own sins.
Help us to be alert and self-controlled,
That we may flee the snares of our enemy.
Show us where we have withheld forgiveness,
And, because of your great mercy, grant us grace to forgive others.

I invite your prayers for repentance and perseverance.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you for your church,
For all who have been given your grace in Christ Jesus.
We remember now those who have died in the faith, trusting that they are in your
care.

Silence

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O Lord, who looks upon the heart,
The light of your presence reveals who we truly are.
Grant us spiritual eyes to see You,
Spiritual ears to hear You,
Increasing faith to trust You,
And display Your work in our lives,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.