

Prayer points – March 2025



As Lent begins, we pray ...

*Lord Jesus Christ, who was driven by the Spirit into the wilderness,
Wrestled with the tempter, and received the ministry of angels:
Strengthen us, we pray, as we seek our way in testing times.
Help us to resist all that draws us from God:
The selfishness that places material gain above searching for your Kingdom,
The willingness to accept falsehood and evil to increase our own power,
The lack of faith that puts you to the test.
And sustain us, we pray, with that sense of your presence,
Which is living bread to the hungry and water in a dry land.*

Biodiversity

We have prayed for a meeting of parties to the Convention on Biodiversity which took place in Rome from 25 to 27 February, picking up unfinished business from last year's summit in Colombia. We now give thanks that, [in a victory for cooperation, its delegates agreed major developments](#) that will help conserve creation's abundant variety. The parties agreed to mobilise finance for developing-country action and to mandate a permanent mechanism for distributing that finance. They also approved mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review of countries' efforts, [establishing indicators](#) to help measure progress in areas such as land use, pesticide reduction, and protection of ecosystems and species. At a time when the [world is far short of implementing the biodiversity framework](#), we pray that these outcomes will give genuine progress towards halting and reversing biodiversity decline.

Celebrating Women in Climate

During March, we celebrate the contributions of women in all areas of life – including climate action. Many spring to mind, among them Christian scientist and communicator Katharine Hayhoe; young activists like Greta Thunberg and [Vanessa Nakate](#); 'stubbornly optimistic' diplomats like Paris Agreement architects [Christiana Figueres](#) and [Laurence Tubiana](#); political changemakers like [climate finance innovator Mia Mottley](#); behind-the-scenes experts like Chinese sustainability adviser [Changhua Wu](#); [theologians](#); [innovators](#); and local leaders whom we know in our families, churches, communities, businesses, and government. We pray God will guide them all and bless their endeavours.

United States

As we start the month, DOGE is [eliminating climate science jobs in government agencies](#). [US scientists were not allowed to attend a recent IPCC meeting, and administrative support for the next international climate assessment was cancelled](#). [Grant applicants](#) and [government departments](#) are being told to purge references to climate change from proposal and websites. We pray for scientists and for all who rely on crucial US climate data. May God help them navigate these difficult times well, protect vital sources of knowledge, and speak effectively to defend science.

The Trump administration also continues to [revoke environmental legislation, freeze programmes, halt new wind energy](#), and encourage fossil fuel development, [including on public lands](#), as well as pressing [state governments](#) and businesses to abandon environmental policies. We pray for a change in hearts and minds.

Polls suggest that a [majority of Americans recognise climate realities](#) – and that even those who don't often favour [conservation, and a transition to clean energy and mass transit](#). This is evident in votes for state [environmental initiatives](#), [bipartisan state legislation](#) promoting renewable energy, and 'red states' [growth in renewables](#). We pray for an increase in positive policies at local and state level encouraging low-carbon technologies and environmental protection. We pray for [all involved in legal challenges to protect vital federal regulations](#). At a time where [renewables are ever more competitive](#), we pray that businesses, [aware of the risks of the status quo and the economic and environmental benefits of sustainability](#), will make wise decisions.

Psalm 28: 7 to 9 (ESV)

The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed. Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Good news on renewables

Whatever the US government and [oil majors like BP](#) may say and do, the future is clearly with renewables. A [report by BloombergNEF \(BNEF\), states](#) that “new wind and solar farms are already undercutting new coal and gas plants on production cost in almost every market globally” and expects the cost of clean-tech electricity to fall significantly further by 2035. China’s dominance in green technology is well established, but India is [planning \\$1 billion in subsidies to increase its manufacturing as it moves to install 500 gigawatts of renewable capacity](#), having invested heavily in distributed solar and battery storage. Meanwhile [Indonesia plans to triple the percentage of renewables in its energy mix by 2034](#). We give thanks that renewables are flourishing and pray that their manufacture and use may be a vehicle for just, sustainable, human-focused solutions.

G20

A gathering of the world’s largest industrialised and developing countries, the G20 has the potential to be a useful forum for collective action on global issues. This year South Africa holds the presidency and has set out an agenda [around the themes of solidarity, equality, and sustainability](#), with four key areas of work – disaster resilience, debt sustainability for low income countries, finance for a just energy transition, and critical minerals as an engine for inclusive growth and sustainable development. But, as the first meetings take place, many countries are not giving this forum their attention. The US has refused to engage, [objecting to the themes](#), and [other key ministers are not attending](#). We pray that God will inspire participation in ways that further justice, peace, and care for creation.

Forests

21 March is the [International Day of Forests](#), a time to celebrate forests and raise awareness of their role in sustaining life on earth. Forests are home to vast numbers of species, [including 60,000 different tree species alone, as well as 80% of amphibian species and 75% of bird species](#). They are also the second most significant carbon sink after our oceans; scientists [estimate](#) that between 2001-2019, they absorbed [7.6 billion metric tonnes of CO2 per year](#). All this is imperilled, however, by [deforestation](#). We give thanks to God for forests, lament the ways they have been and are being destroyed, and give thanks for work to [prevent deforestation and to promote reforestation](#). We remember groups like the [‘Size of Wales’ charity, which](#) “works with [Indigenous and local people](#) worldwide to grow trees and protect at least 2 million hectares of tropical forests – an area the size of Wales”. The Welsh Government supports it [by planting two trees, one in Wales and one in Uganda](#), for every child born or adopted in the country.

Do the little things ...

In March, we remember the patron saint of Wales, St David, and his famous words: “Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things.” Still good advice! When we feel overwhelmed, it’s good to remember that even small acts matter. Sometimes that’s because of the aggregate impact of small changes: it was [amazing to read that](#) simply fitting 600 LED light bulbs at one London rail station was “expected to generate energy savings ... equivalent to ... almost 300 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO2e) and up to £455,000 in operational savings in the first year.” Sometimes the difference comes because of the ripple effect: [what we do impacts others and can shift perceptions about what is ‘normal’](#). Over time, it can lead to larger changes that make it easier for us and others to live a lower-carbon life. With this in mind, we close by praying the prayer written by former Archbishop Barry Morgan of Wales:

God our Father, you called your servant David to uphold the Christian faith amongst the people of Wales, to encourage them by his observance of fasting and obedience, and to show them compassion through small acts of great love.

As light is poured onto the mountain-tops and as fresh rain is sprinkled on the hills, help us to be good carers of one another and of Your great and glorious Creation.

www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk