

## Prayer points – March 2026



### Reflecting in the Wilderness (Dr Elizabeth Perry, [Planting Seeds of Hope Day 12](#))

*Lent commemorates the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness before the start of his public ministry... time spent in nature. Perhaps in those days he would look at the morning stars and remember creation's birth and the angels shouting for joy. Perhaps he would watch the mountain goats and the soaring eagles. Perhaps he would recite the verses from Job and remember that "Whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine". (Job 41:11)*

*Today find something from the natural world and spend time contemplating it in silence. How does it speak to you of God? Be still, breathe, knowing that this thing, and you, and everything else in all creation, belongs to God... is seen... and known... and loved.*

### Fasting

Fasting is a traditional Lenten discipline – a way of recalling our dependence on God and making space in our lives to turn towards God and God's priorities. This year Climate Stewards, part of the A Rocha family, is encouraging a Lenten carbon fast. The [areas they have identified](#) are fasting from overconsumption, from allowing our money to finance fossil fuels exploration and nature exploitation, from food waste and high-carbon food, non-essential driving, energy waste, and social media. For each area they have offered challenges and resources. Lord, we pray that many people will take up the materials Climate Stewards has prepared. We pray that such fasting will both reduce our impact on the earth and leave us more open to hearing God's voice and following God's paths.

### Charity and Justice

What does it mean to give? Almsgiving is another traditional Lenten discipline – but are we giving? Or returning what was not ours in the first place?

Some churches use as they gather offerings the Biblical verse: "All things come from you, and of your own have we given you." That verse, from David's prayer as he sets out to build the Temple, is preceded in Chronicles by David's asking: "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly?" The sentiment is clear: it is God's gift to allow us to offer what, in actuality, we owe. As we have obligations to God, we also have them to neighbours. St John Chrysostom [wrote](#): "I beg you, remember this without fail, that to fail to share our own wealth with the poor is theft from the poor and deprivation of their means of life; we do not possess our own wealth but theirs."

As people around the world experience poverty and hardship because of climate change, the obligations seen in these general principles are sharpened by basic justice: wealthy societies' use of fossil fuels have intensified harm. We owe our neighbours recompense. Pray that Christians everywhere may feel this so intensely that we may give freely of our own resources and campaign intently for justice in climate finance.

### Prayer for people affected by extreme events

Intense Tropical Cyclone Gezani caused [immense](#) damage across two countries. In Madagascar [at least 59 people were killed; nearly 18,000 houses completely destroyed; almost 12,000 flooded, and over 37,000 damaged](#). In Mozambique, the [storm dumped rain on a county where over 700,000 people were already affected by severe flooding that has also affected other southern African countries](#). Both countries are grappling with [longer-term impacts, including malnutrition and, in Mozambique, a major increase in cholera](#). A [rapid attribution study suggested](#) climate change had made the rainfall in southern Africa more likely and more intense.

[Western Europe and North Africa have been battered by a succession of winter storms](#) which caused huge damage in Spain, Portugal, [France](#) and Morocco. One town in Spain received a year's worth of rain in a single day; [18 people have been killed in Portugal; 43 people died in Morocco](#). A rapid [World Weather Attribution study](#) suggested that rains had intensified since the 1950s in a which corresponded to a degree with climate model predictions in Portugal, if not in Southern Spain and Morocco. [Brazil](#) and [Colombia](#) have also experienced serious flooding.

Lord, we pray for the many people suffering because of extreme events. We pray, too, for people working on relief and recovery – and that the international community will offer adequate assistance.

## War's climate impacts

"War is back in vogue," [lamented Pope Leo](#) in January. As we pray, missiles and drones are causing destruction in many parts of the Gulf, Gaza, and Ukraine. Armed conflict isn't just harmful for people; it's terrible for the planet. Military activity – from the mining of elements to the rebuilding of destroyed buildings – is estimated [to contribute 5.5](#) to 6% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions from the first four years of war in Ukraine [are estimated at 311 million tonnes](#) – just under France's annual carbon footprint, and "*the projected emissions from 15-months of direct war activities [in the conflict between Israel and Hamas],*" a [study found](#), "*were greater than the annual emissions of 36 individual countries and territories.*" Father, we lament all forms of conflict and the high costs to people and the environment. We pray for all harmed by war. We pray for peace with justice and for progress towards a world with fewer wars and weapons.

## Green, secure, and sustainable

Following its invasion of Ukraine, Russia has relentlessly attacked the country's energy infrastructure. As a result, millions of Ukrainians have suffered during freezing winters. In response, planners [are beginning to focus on decentralised renewables](#), which can provide local power and are less easy to target than, for example, a large, coal-fired power plant. Renewables' share in Ukraine's energy mix more than doubled, to 11.4%, between 2023 and 2024; new solar installations providing at least 1.5 gigawatts were put in place in 2025; and the [hope is that by 2030, renewables will provide 27% of all power](#). We pray for everyone who has been suffering because of Russia's attacks on infrastructure, and for an end to such attacks. We give thanks for Ukraine's shift towards renewables.

## Endangerment ...

As part of its attacks on climate action, the Trump administration has [repealed the "endangerment finding,"](#) a ruling that greenhouse gas emissions posed a threat to human health and therefore could legally be regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency. If the repeal stands – and [lawsuits are being filed to challenge it](#) – not only current but also future climate action would become more difficult, unless Congress itself legislated on the matter. Pray for a solution that recognises climate truths and enables effective climate regulation.

## Praying for decision-makers

Across the world, political leaders face key decisions about the move away from fossil fuels. In the UK, the Government will be deciding whether or not to approve the Rosebank project, which [would release more than 200 million tonnes of carbon dioxide](#). In the US, where [power emissions are rising sharply](#), the federal government, which now [promotes coal-produced power](#) and fossil fuels generally, needs to determine whether it will [unblock stalled permissions for wind and solar installations](#), and politicians across the country need to determine how to respond to the growth in data centres. Will they [mandate renewable power](#) or allow [companies to continue to make major investments that lock in gas power and emissions](#)? China's government will be releasing its next [Five Year Plan and passing a new ecological and environmental code](#), and EU meetings will discuss [energy pricing](#), which could involve decoupling gas and electricity. We pray that in each case, political leaders may discern the impact of their decisions – and choose paths that promote the common good.

## National Emergency Briefing

Forecasters [are warning that we face a potential El Nino period](#), which could propel temperatures to new heights and push earth's systems [yet closer to dangerous tipping points](#). How can we help people respond well? Next month, [a film based on the 'National Emergency Briefing'](#) will be released in the UK. It aims to provide evidence of the threats from the climate and nature crises, point towards solutions, and move people to act. We pray that it will inspire widespread positive action and that churches will start now to think how they can provide hubs of resilience, giving warmth, guidance, practical support and hope to those who hear its message.

## Signs of hope

Despite many threats, there are also signs of hope. As [Christiana Figueres reportedly recently said](#), while climate politics may be problematic, the transition that is happening on the ground is less so. For example, [wind farms are cutting power prices; 90% of new electrical capacity is renewable](#); EVs have gone from [3% of new car sales in 2019 to 25% in 2025](#). Lord, may these shoots of hope grow into an abundance of positive change.

<https://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk>