National Day of Prayer 2026

Prayer points

Praying for the Nation

Pray for wisdom, compassion and integrity among those who govern our nation. Pray that our MSPs and MPs would uphold justice, protect the vulnerable and seek the good of those they serve, remembering that governing authorities are called to be God's servants for good (Romans 13:4).

Pray for the work of the Public Engagement Coordinator (Rev. Stephen Allison) and the Public Engagement Group. Pray that the Free Church would continue to speak faithfully, wisely and graciously into the important issues facing our nation. Pray for opportunities to build constructive relationships with politicians and policymakers, and for courage to uphold biblical truth.

Pray for the ongoing consideration of abortion law reform in Scotland, particularly proposals to fully decriminalise abortion. Pray that the Scottish Government and MSPs would recognise the dignity and value of every human life, including the unborn, and resist changes that would further weaken legal protections. Pray also for women facing difficult or unexpected pregnancies, that they would receive compassionate care, practical support and encouragement to choose life.

Pray for those considering legislation to ban so-called "conversion practices" at Westminster and in Scotland. Pray that concerns raised by Christian churches, parents and others would be heard, and that any legislation would protect the freedom to teach biblical beliefs, offer pastoral care, pray with others and provide parental guidance. Pray that Christians would be able to speak truthfully and compassionately about matters of sexuality and identity without fear of criminalisation.

Pray for the place of Christianity within Scottish education, particularly as the future of Religious Observance (RO) and Religious and Moral Education (RME) is being discussed. Pray that children and young people would have meaningful opportunities to encounter the Christian faith and that schools would continue to welcome the involvement of local churches and Christian chaplains. Pray for Christian teachers and school staff, that they would be faithful witnesses to Christ in their daily work.

Praying for the Church

Give thanks that the vision of a Healthy Gospel Church is now widely recognised across the denomination. Pray that this vision will continue to shape both our thinking and our lives, engaging head, heart and hands in the service of Christ.

Give thanks for the opportunities over the past year to pray for those in our lives who do not yet know Jesus. Give thanks for those who have begun exploring faith, come along to church or shown an interest in the gospel. Pray that these steps would lead to a deeper curiosity about Jesus and, ultimately, to faith in Him. Ask God to help us continue to build relationships, share the gospel and faithfully pray for those we long to see come to know Him.

Rural Ministry
Pray for the Lord to strengthen and encourage those serving in rural communities across Scotland. Give thanks for the Centre for Rural Ministry which seeks to encourage and resource our rural congregations where there are often challenges relating to manpower and finance. Pray for the young people who have attended the Rural Ministry conferences and "The Gathering" events, that some of them may hear a call to serve in rural congregations either as ministers or as active members.

Training
Give thanks for the strength of our Minister-in-Training programme, for everyone at ETS and in our training churches who faithfully labour to equip the next generation of gospel workers. Pray those who are engaged in our new Women's Worker and Foundation Level training programmes.

Pray for Ali Sewell as he settles into his new role as interim Director of Training, asking the Lord to guide and strengthen him in this important work

Ministry
Pray that every Free Church Minister will keep a careful watch over their life and doctrine, setting a faithful example for believers in every area of life. Ask the Lord to strengthen all our Ministers to preach his Word faithfully and courageously.

Pray that the Lord would protect and bless the families of our Ministers, sustaining them in his grace and giving them joy as they serve Him together. Pray for the newly inducted ministers as they settle into locations across Scotland.

Recruitment
Pray that God would stir in all His people a deep desire to abound in the work of the Lord, standing firm in the faith and serving him wholeheartedly, knowing that their labour in the Lord is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58). Pray that the Lord would raise up men and women with a heart to serve him full-time as Ministers of the gospel, women's workers, children's workers and evangelists.

Plead with the Lord to raise up 200 new Ministers for the Free Church by 2043, equipping and calling a new generation to proclaim his Word and build up his church. Pray for the work started at the 10:02 Summit which brought together leaders from all over the church to conder ways of increasing the number of men training for the Free Church ministry.

Pray for our church plants across Scotland
Give thanks for the work of church planting across Scotland, with 14 active church plants and a further seven that have grown to become fully sanctioned charges. Pray particularly for Garioch, our newest church planting work in Inverurie, as preparations continue for its launch in spring 2027. Pray for the ministers, families and teams serving in church plants across Scotland. Ask God to provide for their practical needs and sustain those serving with wisdom and joy in their ministry. Remember particularly Merchant City Church in Glasgow as it enters a new chapter, praying for encouragement and the support needed to continue its ministry. Above all, pray that many would come to know Jesus.

Pray for new opportunities to plant churches
Give thanks for the opportunities before us to establish new gospel communities in Scotland and pray for wisdom as plans develop for further church plants in 2027. Remember particularly Wick, where there is an encouraging opportunity for a new church plant but a need for a suitable leader to take the work forward. Ask God to raise up the right people, open doors, and provide the resources needed for new congregations to be established. Pray that, as a denomination, we would continue to have a heart for reaching communities where there is little gospel witness, and that God would guide us to the places and people He is calling us to serve.

Pray for the future of church planting and those called to serve
Pray for Tom Muir as he settles into his role as Church Planting Director, visiting congregations and encouraging a shared vision for church planting across the Free Church. Ask that this work would be embraced as part of our wider mission. Pray also for preparations to relaunch Leadership Bootcamp in 2027, that it would help identify and equip a new generation of Christian leaders. Pray for stronger connections and communication across the denomination, that together we would be informed, encouraged, and united in prayer and partnership as we seek to make Christ known across Scotland.

Praying for our Youth and Young People
We give thanks for another summer of blessing at FCYC camps. Over 500 campers and leaders from across Scotland and further afield came together to build relationships, enjoy fun and fellowship, and, most importantly, grow in their knowledge of God. Please pray that the seeds planted during the camps will continue to take root and flourish in the hearts and minds of the young people and leaders, strengthening their faith and drawing them closer to Him. Please also pray for the ambitious plans for next summer's camps. Pray that God would go ahead of us, preparing the hearts of the campers and leaders who will attend. Ask that He would be at work in their lives now, stirring a willingness to come along, serve others, and be part of what He is doing through FCYC next summer.

Pray for all the young people across the church, giving thanks for the opportunities to gather at the Teens' Conference and Youth Conference, as well as through the ongoing local youth work. Ask that God would bless these times of fellowship and teaching,

deepen their faith in Christ, strengthen relationships between young people, and raise up a generation who love and faithfully serve the Lord

Praying for the World

Pray for our mission partners and those connected with our denomination serving on the front lines of God's work in Southeast Asia, Cambodia, Greece, India, Nepal, Peru, Poland, South Africa and Turkey. Ask the Lord to protect and strengthen them physically, emotionally and spiritually, sustaining them through every challenge. Pray that God would continue to work through their faithful service, making His name known and drawing many people to Himself.

Pray for Chhapara Mission School in India, where the Christian community is relatively small, and for its desire to maintain a meaningful and constructive Christian presence in the wider community.

Pray for wisdom for the staff and students of Dumisani Theological Institute in South Africa as they seek to equip future leaders to address the syncretism that remains a significant challenge in the churches of the Eastern Cape.

Pray for the thousands of graduates of Colegio San Andrés in Lima, Peru, who are now dispersed throughout the world. Pray especially that those who are not yet belie vers would remember the gospel they heard so faithfully proclaimed in word and deed, and come to saving faith in Christ.

Pray for communities in Nepal facing the aftermath of flash floods and mudslides, as families grieve, homes are destroyed and people begin the difficult task of rebuilding. Ask God to bring comfort, provision and strength to all those affected. Pray for local believers and churches as they respond to ongoing needs in their communities. May they be strengthened in their faith