

# Prayer Alert

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**You have defined and established all the borders of the earth, and the divisions of land and sea and of the nations. You have made summer and winter. (Psalm 74:17, AMP)**

We are pleased to enclose this week's edition of Prayer Alert.

Pray for the Irish general election taking place on 29 November: [Insight Guide](#).

## Invitation - to serve with the PA team!

How would you like to join our Prayer Alert team? We are a group of volunteers based in different parts of England. If you appreciate what we do and are confident with browsing the internet, discovering relevant articles and basic editing, we would love to hear from you! Please hit 'reply', introduce yourself, and we will be in touch.

Thank you for partnering with us in praying for the nations.

May God bless and encourage you this year,

David Fletcher and the Prayer Alert team.

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## Praise Reports

### [Dodgers player says 'God is absolutely good' after World Series win](#)

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Blake Treinen openly praised God following his team's 2024 World Series victory over the New York Yankees, emphasising his deep Christian faith. In a post-game interview, Treinen described feeling 'overwhelming joy': asked who he thought of during the final out, he simply replied, 'God'. His faith is evident on his social media, where he highlights his love for Jesus and shares his convictions. In 2023, Treinen spoke out against the Dodgers' recognition of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, a controversial group he views as disrespectful to Christianity. Despite the potential professional risks, he made clear that his loyalty to Christ and Christian values is more important than his career. Treinen, who has publicly shared his faith since at least 2016, continues to honour his commitment to God, reflecting his unwavering devotion through both his words and actions.

Praise: God for athletes like Blake Treinen, who boldly proclaim their faith in Jesus Christ. (Matthew 10:32)

More: [www.christianpost.com/news/dodgers-player-says-god-is-good-after-world-series-win.html](http://www.christianpost.com/news/dodgers-player-says-god-is-good-after-world-series-win.html)

### [Christian coalition launches over 200 training hubs to mobilise pastors](#)

James O Davis, founder of the Global Church Network (GCN), launched a coalition with a vision to fulfil the Great Commission by 2030. Inspired by a call from the Holy Spirit in 2001, Davis aims to see billions come to Christ by creating 800 leadership training hubs worldwide, mobilising one million ministers to spread the Gospel. Recently, GCN established 200 training hubs across six continents, with additional expansion in regions like the Balkans and South Africa. These hubs provide theological and leadership training, with a focus on equipping pastors in hard-to-reach areas. Davis, along with GCN, hopes to 'catch a harvest' by tying relational knots across a global network. The FINISH 2030 initiative, launched at Martin Luther's graveside in Germany, aligns with the two thousandth anniversary of the Church, which will be celebrated in Jerusalem in 2030.

Praise: God for the global vision of unity and Gospel advancement through GCN's initiatives. (Mark 16:15)

More: [www.christianpost.com/news/christian-network-surpasses-200-great-commission-training-hubs.html](http://www.christianpost.com/news/christian-network-surpasses-200-great-commission-training-hubs.html)

## British Isles

### Badenoch's first PMQs as Tory leader

In her debut at Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs) as the new leader of the opposition, Kemi Badenoch showcased a robust approach, promising 'constructive opposition' and addressing both US-UK relations and domestic issues. She began by questioning Labour leader Keir Starmer on his party's previous criticisms of Donald Trump, who had recently won the US presidential election. She suggested Starmer extend an invitation for Trump to address Parliament, though he did not respond directly. Starmer, however, affirmed his commitment to maintaining strong US-UK ties. Badenoch then pivoted to the Budget, criticising Labour's 'family farms tax' and questioning how it would affect farmers. Despite tensions, both leaders congratulated Trump on his victory. Badenoch's performance was seen as confident, signalling her readiness to challenge Starmer and the current administration's policies on multiple fronts.

Pray: for our leaders to act with integrity and discernment, prioritising justice and the nation's well-being. (Romans 13:1)  
More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/live/cjw0nqd6653t](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/live/cjw0nqd6653t)

### What a Trump victory means for the UK

Donald Trump's presidential victory brings uncertainty for the UK, as his often unpredictable style prompts questions on future relations. Both UK and US leaders have engaged diplomatically, with Keir Starmer and foreign secretary David Lammy working to strengthen ties. Recently, Starmer and Lammy met Trump in New York, with Trump accommodating their visit - a gesture signalling diplomatic goodwill. Lammy has also made several trips to the USA, showing an effort to understand Trump's 'America First' priorities. However, despite efforts at outreach, Lammy acknowledges potential friction, especially on European defence spending and the USA's shifting focus towards Asia. Concerns loom over future support for Ukraine, and there is apprehension about potential economic impacts, including tariffs and trade disagreements. While the UK has prepared for various outcomes, a Trump second term is expected to be marked by a transactional, sometimes tense, relationship that impacts both nations.

Pray: for discernment and continued stability in UK / US relations as leaders navigate a season of significant global challenges. (James 3:18)  
More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cpvzjr8w9mxo](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cpvzjr8w9mxo)

### Ireland: general election confirmed for 29 November

Taoiseach Simon Harris has officially confirmed that Ireland will hold a general election on Friday 29 November, ending months of speculation. Following a European Council meeting in Budapest, Harris plans to return to Dublin to initiate the three-week campaign, expected to focus on critical issues such as housing, healthcare, the cost of living, immigration, and climate. The election announcement follows pressure on Harris from within his own party, Fine Gael, particularly after his personal approval rating surged to 55% in September. It comes on the heels of this summer's local and European elections, where Sinn Féin underperformed, prompting the party to adjust its strategy and field around 70 candidates. The Taoiseach's decision for an early election was also influenced by support from coalition leaders.

Pray: for peace and unity in Ireland as voters prepare for an election impacting future generations. (Jeremiah 29:7)  
More: [www.irishtimes.com/politics/2024/11/06/tanaiste-confirms-general-election-will-be-called-by-taoiseach-on-friday/](http://www.irishtimes.com/politics/2024/11/06/tanaiste-confirms-general-election-will-be-called-by-taoiseach-on-friday/)

### Starmer gets tougher on freebies

Keir Starmer is updating the ministerial code to address growing concerns over ministers accepting hospitality and gifts. While an outright ban was considered, the revised code instead emphasises public perception and accountability, allowing ministers to accept gifts if they can justify them in alignment with public expectations. New procedures include a hospitality register that requires full disclosure of gift values, submitted every month instead of quarterly. This brings their reporting requirements closer to MPs, who must update interests within 28 days. The changes respond to recent controversies surrounding Starmer and other ministers who accepted high-value gifts, including Taylor Swift concert tickets and designer clothing. Although he has faced criticism for delayed declarations, he asserts that all rules were followed. The update aligns with Labour's commitment to high standards in government, though some feel stricter measures are needed. The establishment of a dedicated Ethics and Integrity Commission remains pending as part of Labour's broader ethics reform efforts.

Pray: for accountability and transparency in our Government, ensuring integrity in decisions across public services. (Proverbs 10:9)  
More: [www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/starmer-gets-tougher-on-freebies-in-updated-ministerial-code-n0lhx9mrg](http://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/starmer-gets-tougher-on-freebies-in-updated-ministerial-code-n0lhx9mrg)

### Firefighters and fire engines attacked on Bonfire Night in 'disgusting' scenes

On Bonfire Night, County Durham firefighters faced multiple attacks, including fireworks being aimed at them and bricks thrown at their fire engines. The Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (DDFRS) reported six incidents of anti-social behaviour, with significant damage to two fire engines. One officer condemned these 'disgusting' attacks, emphasising that such actions put lives at risk by delaying emergency response times. He urged parents to educate young people about the dangers of attacking emergency responders, stressing that damaging fire engines could prevent timely help in real emergencies. He expressed gratitude for the majority of the community who celebrated Bonfire Night safely, as well as for the dedication of his crews, support staff, and police colleagues. Footage from fire engine CCTV and body-worn cameras has been handed over to Durham Constabulary to assist in holding perpetrators accountable.

Pray: for protection over emergency responders as they selflessly serve communities, facing dangers and hostility. (Matthew 5:9)  
More: [www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/county-durham-firefighters-fire-engines-30312469](http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/county-durham-firefighters-fire-engines-30312469)

## **GAFCON demands that Justin Welby publicly repent**

The Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) has called on Archbishop Justin Welby to publicly repent for endorsing same-sex blessings, claiming his stance contradicts the traditional 'doctrine of Christ'. In a recent podcast, Welby advocated for allowing same-sex couples in civil partnerships or marriages to receive blessings in church, stating that sexual activity should be confined to committed relationships, regardless of sexual orientation. GAFCON contends that this viewpoint alters the doctrine of sin and supports what they see as a sanctification of sin. Evangelical groups across the UK, including the Evangelical Council and Christian Concern, have also voiced disapproval, suggesting that Welby's remarks represent a significant departure from Anglican orthodoxy. Some groups are forming alternative structures, like the Anglican Network in Europe, to support members who feel unable to remain in the CofE under these evolving doctrines.

Pray: for wisdom and commitment to biblical teachings among church leaders as they navigate these divisive issues. (2 Timothy 3:16)

More: [www.christianpost.com/news/gafcon-tells-justin-welby-to-repent-for-same-sex-marriage-remarks.html](http://www.christianpost.com/news/gafcon-tells-justin-welby-to-repent-for-same-sex-marriage-remarks.html)

## **Europe**

### **Ukraine: possible outcome of US election result**

The reelection of Donald Trump could significantly impact US support for Ukraine as the war with Russia continues. Throughout his campaign, Trump expressed doubts about the USA's ongoing commitment to Kyiv, suggesting the possibility of pressuring Ukraine into a truce with Russia. This comes at a critical time; Russia is making advances in the Donbas region, and North Korean troops are reportedly bolstering Russian forces. The Biden administration has provided tens of billions in military and financial aid to Ukraine, but Trump has often praised Vladimir Putin and criticised Volodymyr Zelensky. He has claimed that the war would not have started under his presidency, and has promised to end the conflict swiftly. Zelensky, who was quick to [congratulate Trump on his victory](https://kyivindependent.com/zelensky-congratulates/) (<https://kyivindependent.com/zelensky-congratulates/>), must be concerned about the potential implications for his beleaguered country: American military aid to Ukraine currently accounts for 43% of the total.

Pray: for God's guidance and strength for leaders making decisions in this conflict. (Psalm 32:24)

More: [edition.cnn.com/2024/11/06/politics/trump-election-ukraine-war-russia-intl/index.html](https://edition.cnn.com/2024/11/06/politics/trump-election-ukraine-war-russia-intl/index.html)

### **Spain: mud thrown at king, fury directed at politicians**

Following Spain's deadliest natural disaster in recent memory, a visit by King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia to Valencia became the target of public outrage, with protesters hurling mud at them. The recent devastating floods claimed at least 217 lives, with the toll expected to rise. When the royal couple appeared, alongside Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and other leaders, many locals expressed their fury at what they saw as inadequate warnings and slow government response. Protesters shouted 'Murderers!' and 'Get out!' at officials, blaming them for the disaster's aftermath, and there were several clashes with police. Queen Letizia burst into tears after speaking to several grieving people. One commentator noted that the crowd's anger was directed at the politicians, not the royal family. Public resentment over the government's handling of the floods has intensified. One week after the floods struck, many people still did not have drinking water.

Pray: for suitable help and healing for all those affected by the floods, and for responsible leadership in Spain. (Psalm 34:18)

More: [www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/spain-king-felipe-queen-letizia-mud-valencia-floods-b2641414.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/spain-king-felipe-queen-letizia-mud-valencia-floods-b2641414.html)

### **Germany: coalition government on brink of collapse**

Germany's ruling coalition faces a crisis after chancellor Olaf Scholz fired finance minister Christian Lindner, citing a breakdown of trust. Scholz, leader of the Social Democrats, said that Lindner, head of the liberal Free Democrats (FDP), had prioritised his party's interests over the country's needs. This move has left Scholz's coalition without a parliamentary majority; this might lead to a vote of confidence in January and early elections. Tensions within the coalition had been brewing for weeks, particularly over economic policies. Scholz and the Green party had pushed for increased public spending, especially to counter rising energy costs and defence needs following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but Lindner wants to pay for tax cuts by slashing welfare and social budgets and pushing back environmental targets. The political turmoil comes amid economic stagnation and growing uncertainties in Europe, compounded by Donald Trump's election.

Pray: for God's guidance for Germany's leaders, that they may bring stability and unity. (Proverbs 2:6)

More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c7v3r046pzzo](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c7v3r046pzzo)

## **Worldwide**

### **USA: Trump re-elected president in historic comeback**

In a dramatic political comeback, Donald Trump has secured a victory in the US presidential election. Despite his controversial past, including his role in the January 2021 Capitol riots and criminal charges related to falsifying business records, he garnered significant support from voters who felt that the economy and immigration issues had been mishandled by Joe Biden: his slogan 'America First' resonated deeply with them. Voters also voiced dissatisfaction with Kamala Harris, fearing that another term under Democratic leadership would offer more of the same. While Trump's victory marks a significant shift in the political landscape, many are concerned about his divisive rhetoric and admiration for authoritarian leaders like Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong Un. When he returns to power, the USA and the world will see whether his bold promises of change will come to fruition - and at what cost to democracy and global stability. For a detailed and gloomy assessment, [see](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK6MD_8S01o) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK6MD\\_8S01o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK6MD_8S01o)

Pray: for wisdom and peace in the upcoming leadership, for the nation and the world. (Proverbs 21:1)

More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cly2818j7rko](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cly2818j7rko)

### Global: 'a journalist is killed every four days'

A recent UNESCO report shows that the number of journalists killed worldwide surged in 2022-23, with a significant increase in fatalities. On average, one journalist was killed every four days, highlighting the growing danger faced by media workers. The total number of journalists killed during this period reached 162 - a 38% rise. Latin America and the Caribbean accounted for the most deaths (61). In 2023 the majority of journalist killings took place in conflict zones, a reversal of a long-term decline in such deaths. The report also highlighted the alarming issue of impunity; 85 percent of journalist killings remain unsolved. 14 women journalists were killed, and the Palestinian territories saw the highest number of fatalities, with 24 journalists killed in the line of duty. UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres has called on governments to take 'urgent steps' to protect journalists and investigate and prosecute all crimes against media workers.

Pray: for the protection of journalists, that the truth may be boldly shared without fear. Pray for an end to impunity. (Psalm 145:18)

More: [www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/11/2/one-journalist-killed-every-four-days-in-2022-23-most-cases-unpunished-un](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/11/2/one-journalist-killed-every-four-days-in-2022-23-most-cases-unpunished-un)

### Israel: protests after Netanyahu dismisses popular defence minister

Benjamin Netanyahu has dismissed defence minister Yoav Gallant amid Israel's ongoing conflicts with Gaza and Lebanon, citing a lack of trust. Gallant's opposition to ultra-orthodox military conscription and his differing views on hostages have long put him at odds with Netanyahu: he had also publicly dismissed Netanyahu's oft-repeated goal of 'total victory' over Hamas, saying that Israel's military success had created the conditions for a diplomatic deal. His replacement, foreign minister Israel Katz, vowed to prioritise Israel's security, emphasising the return of hostages and a decisive stance against Israel's enemies. Gallant, seen as a moderate influence in Netanyahu's coalition, was considered to be a stabilising figure. His dismissal sparked major protests across Israel, with citizens decrying the decision as a threat to national security. US officials expressed concern over the timing, especially in the middle of two wars. Meanwhile, on 7 November Israel allowed the evacuation of 231 seriously ill and injured patients from Gaza, the biggest since the conflict broke out. However, WHO said there were still up to 14,000 people waiting for evacuation for medical reasons.

Pray: for wisdom in leadership, and for protection for all innocent lives involved. (Proverbs 24:5)

More: [www.theguardian.com/world/2024/nov/05/benjamin-netanyahu-fires-israeli-defence-minister-yoav-gallant](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/nov/05/benjamin-netanyahu-fires-israeli-defence-minister-yoav-gallant)

### Indonesia: another deadly volcanic eruption

On 3 November Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki, located on Flores Island in eastern Indonesia, erupted, triggering a deadly disaster. The eruption unleashed explosive lava, volcanic ash, and fiery rocks, and at least ten have died. In response, authorities raised the volcano's alert level to the highest, evacuating residents from the area within a seven-kilometre radius. Some settlements, about four kilometres from the crater, were struck by burning lava and rocks. The government declared a state of emergency for 58 days, enabling emergency aid for around 10,000 affected residents. In addition to the immediate danger of lava, authorities warned of potential flash floods and cold lava mudflows. There have been two other violent volcanic eruptions this year in Indonesia, highlighting the nation's vulnerability.

Pray: for God's protection and provision for the families affected by this eruption. (Psalm 121:1,2)

More: [www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/indonesias-laki-laki-volcano-flores-island-erupts-killing-9-people-2024-11-04/](http://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/indonesias-laki-laki-volcano-flores-island-erupts-killing-9-people-2024-11-04/)

### North Korea fires ballistic missiles just before US election

Just a few hours before the US presidential election began, North Korea launched several short-range ballistic missiles into the sea east of the Korean peninsula. The missiles were fired from a province south of Pyongyang. South Korea confirmed the launch but has not released further details. Kim Jong-un's sister, Kim Yo-jong, condemned the recent US-South Korea-Japan trilateral air drills involving B-1B bombers, calling them 'hostile' and 'invasive'. She argued that such actions justified the expansion of North Korea's nuclear programme. This missile test follows a significant launch on 31 October, when North Korea tested what is believed to be a new intercontinental ballistic missile. South Korean officials had earlier warned that North Korea might engage in provocative actions around the US election, raising regional tensions and global concerns.

Pray: for peace in the Korean peninsula, and for wisdom in international relations. (James 3:18)

More: [asianews.network/north-korea-fires-short-range-ballistic-missiles-says-south-korea-joint-chiefs-of-staff/](http://asianews.network/north-korea-fires-short-range-ballistic-missiles-says-south-korea-joint-chiefs-of-staff/)

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