



The Church of Scotland

MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

23 September 2025

The below is being sent to: Presbytery Clerks, Ministers, OLMs & Auxiliaries, Interim Moderators & Locums, Readers, the Diaconate, MDS, Ministry Candidates & Probationers, and Session Clerks

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ!

In Luke 4 we read of Jesus returning to Nazareth, and reading from the scroll:
God's Spirit is on me;
He's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor,
Sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and
recovery of sight to the blind,
To set the burdened and battered free,
to announce, "This is God's time to shine!"

(From *The Message* translation)

In Scotland we know too well that we need God to shine, to enter the hearts and homes of those who struggle against poverty and marginalisation.

In May the General Assembly endorsed <https://www.scotland-demands-better.com/>, a broad civil society movement of people and organisations seeking to transform our society and challenge the injustices which make life so much harder for people who have less to begin with.

The main part of Scotland Demands Better is a march and rally in Edinburgh on Saturday 25 October. I'm writing to you to say – you are invited! Let's hit the streets together and show Scotland that Christians are witnesses to a God who puts the poorest and the least at the forefront. Simply turn up outside the Scottish Parliament from 1030 for a 1100 start with your banners, flags and placards. Church folk from all traditions and denominations are invited to journey together and to meet behind the visitor entrance building at this spot: <https://what3words.com/wiping.small.chief>

If you want to find out more, come to a special free webinar which is being organised by our Public Life and Social Justice team, on Monday 6 October at 7pm. Visit <https://shorturl.at/xxkqV> to register for your place.

If you can't make it to Edinburgh on 25 October then we ask you to remember this movement in your prayers, and to spread the news among your congregation and communities. Resources for prayer and communication will be made available on <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/get-involved/scotland-demands-better> shortly. With the Scottish Parliament elections taking place in May, now is the time to get people thinking about what can be done to support our neighbours and be a visible witness to Christ's teaching and inclusion on the streets as well as in our churches.

Questions to FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk or sign up to email updates from <https://www.tfaforms.com/5177012>

With every blessing to you,

Rt Rev Rosie Frew

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

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