

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, for generations throughout its history, America has faced both trials and triumphs. From the early Pilgrims to the Continental Congress, to the many Presidents and Governors, faith in Almighty God has been deeply rooted in the foundation and building up of this great nation; and

WHEREAS, whether in times of great crisis or in times of celebration, Americans have responded in prayer seeking courage and comfort, inspiration, and joy-filled celebration. Faith compels us to seek and cling to the Light in times of darkness and spread light to those in need; and

WHEREAS, from the first gatherings of our Founding Fathers, elected officials have prayed and entreated those they serve and represent to join them in prayer as established by the authors of our Declaration of Independence, who wrote, “the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world...” and carried on to present day in Presidential Proclamations such as last year’s invitation to “join him in asking for God’s continued guidance, mercy, and protection.”; and

WHEREAS, a National Day of Prayer has been not only a part of our heritage since it was declared by the First Continental Congress in 1775, but subsequently affirmed by the United States Congress in 1952 by a Joint Resolution and was established by Congress and President Reagan with Public Law 100-307 in 1988, affirming that it is essential for us as a nation to pray and directs the President of the United States to set aside and proclaim the first Thursday of May annually as The National Day of Prayer; and

WHEREAS, unified prayer is mobilized across America every first Thursday of May on the National Day of Prayer as neighbors come together to join their hearts and voices in reading sacred Scriptures and attending services to seek God for the city and country where we live, learn, work, worship, serve, and desire all to thrive; and

WHEREAS, in every state across America, the observance of the National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2024, with the theme, “*Lift Up the Word, Light Up the World,*” based on the verses found in 2 Samuel 22:29-31, “For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness ... This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.” and

WHEREAS, in the words of President Reagan’s 1988 Proclamation 5767—National Day of Prayer, we recognized that we are a nation founded by “*a people who recognized God as the Author of freedom . . . who affirmed along with Thomas Jefferson that the God Who gave us life gave us liberty as well;*” and

WHEREAS, we express our faith and exercise our freedom in prayer, then unite our hearts and voices in personal prayer and public gatherings across America with fervent praise, repentance, love, and humble intercession for our neighbor and nation, holding fast to the promises throughout the Holy Scriptures that the Lord hears and avails much as He answers the faith-filled prayers of His people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim, May 2, 2024, as a

DAY OF PRAYER

throughout the State of Mississippi and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 10th day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-eighth.

TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR

