

DAY OF PRAYER MAY 4, 2023

WHEREAS, throughout the history of the United States of America, faith has been deeply rooted in the foundation and history of this great nation; and

WHEREAS, from the first gatherings of our Founding Fathers, elected officials have prayed and entreated those they serve and represent to join in prayer, including the authors of the 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 carry 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, in North Dakota and across the United States the observance of the National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2023, with the theme, "Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much," based on the verses in James 5:16b, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much"; and

WHEREAS, a National Day of Prayer has been part of our heritage since it was declared by the First Continental Congress in 1775 and a Public Law established in the United States Congress in 1952 approved by a Joint Resolution and later amended 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 directing the President of the United States to set aside and proclaim the first Thursday of May annually as a National Day of Prayer; and

WHEREAS, on the National Day of Prayer, we express our faith and exercise our freedom in prayer while uniting our hearts and voices in personal prayer and public gatherings throughout North Dakota and across the United States with fervent praise, repentance, love and humble intercession for our neighbors 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, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 4, 2023, DAY OF PRAYER in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE