

Governor Reeves calls for statewide day of prayer

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, throughout the history of this state, whether in times of great joy and thanksgiving, or in times of great challenge and uncertainty, Mississippians have turned to prayer. In prayer, we have expressed gratitude and humility, sought guidance and forgiveness, and received inspiration and assistance, both in good times and in bad; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of this nation, national leaders have proclaimed days to observe prayer, humility and fasting, including: President John Adams proclaimed March 23, 1798, a "day of fasting, humiliation and prayer"; President James Madison proclaimed August 20, 1812, as "a day of public humiliation and prayer"; President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed April 30, 1863, as "a day of national humiliation, fasting and prayer"; and President Franklin Roosevelt led the nation in prayer on June 6, 1944; and

WHEREAS, in this season we acknowledge the challenges and difficulties that many Mississippians have experienced during this unique time in the life of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, as with President John Adams' March 23, 1798, proclamation we seek *"that our country may be protected from all the dangers which threaten it; that our civil and religious privileges may be preserved inviolate and perpetuated to the latest generations; that our public councils and magistrates may be especially enlightened and directed at this critical period; that the American people may be united in those bonds of amity and mutual confidence and inspired with that vigor and fortitude by which they have in times past been so highly distinguished and by which they have obtained such invaluable advantages; that the health of the inhabitants of our land may be preserved, and their agriculture, commerce, fisheries, arts, and manufactures be blessed and prospered; that the principles of genuine piety and sound morality may influence the minds and govern the lives of every description of our citizens, and that the blessings of peace, freedom, and pure religion may be speedily extended to all the nations of the earth."*; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge our trust in God in times of distress and the continued need for God's wisdom and protection for our state and our nation; and

WHEREAS, as Scripture instructs that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord, we seek wisdom and will strive to walk humbly in reliance on God's providence so that we may act with justice, courage, kindness and love, through all circumstances; and

WHEREAS, with trust in God we, the people of Mississippi, acknowledge our many rich blessings; recognize our own transgressions; and, in the face of challenges that may lie in the days ahead, we further acknowledge the need to pause in humility to seek God's guidance, wisdom and favor; and

WHEREAS, as President Franklin Roosevelt led the nation in prayer, *"I ask that our people devote themselves in continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts."*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim December 20, 2020, as a voluntary

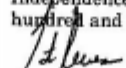
DAY OF PRAYER, HUMILITY AND FASTING

in the State of Mississippi and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



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 16th day of December the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fifth.


TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR