

## **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

Will you pray today? Millions of people across America and the world join in prayer on the first Thursday each May for the "National Day of Prayer." And the suggested prayers for this national observance can be lifted up to Almighty God any day and every day.

This year's prayer theme is "*Pray Fervently In Righteousness and Avail Much*," as in James 5:16. The prayers cover seven categories of major influencers in our world today. Kathy Branzell, President of the National Day of Prayer Task Force, invites you to pray this with her:

**2023 NATIONAL PRAYER** - "We come with fervent hearts to praise You Lord. You are The Word, the Way, Truth and Life. The Alpha and Omega, Lion of Judah, Almighty God who was, and is, and is to come. You clothed Yourself in flesh and dwelt among us, to remove our sin and clothe us in Your righteousness, that we might dwell with You forever and ever.

"With broken, humbled hearts we repent of our sins. Confessing to You our faithlessness, prayerlessness, and disobedience. Forgive us for our doubt, our prideful and quarrelsome words that reveal our unclean hearts. Cleanse us and renew a right and steadfast spirit within us we pray.

**GRATEFUL HEARTS** - "With grateful hearts we thank You fervently for the blessings in our life and throughout America; they are more than we are able to count. We will remember Your grace and testify to Your goodness in all generations. Help us to refrain from complaining, but instead be prompted to pray faithfully in every circumstance. Teach us to have a content heart knowing You are always enough for our every need.

"As the Church we commit to pray and love our neighbor and nation as You loved us, that our reputation in this world would be rooted in Your love. Holy Spirit work and overflow through us in every prayer, thought, word, and deed. May our character, conversations, and conduct reflect the righteousness in which You clothed us and command us to live.

**FERVENT REQUESTS** - "With an obedient heart we put on the full armor of God; Your breastplate of righteousness guards our heart from which flows the springs of life. We pray fervently for our communities and country; the people who are in the Church, Family, Education, Business and Workplace, Military, Government, Arts, Entertainment and Media.

"Every person is Your workmanship, fearfully and wonderfully created and loved. With hopeful hearts we pray that all would choose to receive Your love and follow You. We pray that America would confess, "Jesus is Lord" and reflect Your righteousness in every sphere of influence, and every aspect of our lives. We ask that heavenly hope would flood our hearts, silence hate, and that You will heal our land.

"Believing You; all You are, all You said, and all You have promised, we pray fervently in righteousness and avail much. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen!"

**PRAYER RESOURCES** - You can get more information and prayer resources online at [www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org) including a link to watch the national prayer broadcast, and information about the history of prayer in America, and participatory calls to prayer. The site also links to helpful resources such as "How to Pray for America" and "How to Pray as a Family."

Prayer resources include <https://prayvotestand.org> and <https://washingtonstand.com> and [www.frcaction.org](http://www.frcaction.org) from Family Research Council. Check out <https://worldprayernetwork.org> and <https://ifapray.org> (Intercessors for America) and <https://prayforamericasleaders.com> and [www.presidentialprayerteam.org](http://www.presidentialprayerteam.org). Other prayer resources include Faith & Freedom Coalition at <http://www.ffcoalition.com> and <https://ffciowa.com>. See also <https://thefamilyleader.com> and [www.familypolicyalliance.com](http://www.familypolicyalliance.com) and [www.prayerleader.com](http://www.prayerleader.com) and <https://love2pray.com>.

**GREAT AWAKENING** - Will you pray today? Either by yourself or gather with others. Humbly bow before the Lord God Almighty, praising Him for all that He is and does and wills. Repent of your sins, as you lift up earnest requests. Pray for God's healing grace in your life, family, church, community. Pray for new believers and persecuted believers across the globe. Pray for a great awakening of God's grace and truth in Jesus Christ across our land and world! ☐