

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
NOV 27 1968

Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State

P R O C L A M A T I O N

Hundreds of years ago a rugged band of Pilgrims celebrated Thanksgiving Day on the bleak banks of New England. Their first year in the New World had been full of hardship and heartache. For the first time, they had to cross a stormy ocean. For the first time, they had to patch together meager homes. For the first time, they had to subdue a strange and wild land. But more importantly to the Pilgrims, for the first time they had religious freedom. And the God they so earnestly sought and so willingly sacrificed to worship had watched over them and provided for them.

Hundreds of years have passed. And today we still have the Pilgrims' dearly held freedom, the freedom to worship. Yet while all are guaranteed the opportunity to worship, many have lost the ability to worship and some have even forgotten the reason to worship. Let this Thanksgiving Day be a day not only of thanks, but of thought.

Let us remember the God who protected and provided for the Pilgrims is with us yet. Let us remember that we have even more reason to be thankful than the Pilgrims, for our affluence, abundance and opportunity, is vastly greater than theirs. Let us remember that God has guided us through a turbulent and too often tragic year. Let us not forget that in God is our only strength and sole security.

Therefore, I, Harold LeVander, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do proclaim November 28, 1968, as Thanksgiving Day in Minnesota, and urge all Minnesotans

to attend their respective Houses of Worship,

to humbly acknowledge their dependence on a Divine Being,

to sincerely ask His forgiveness for our many ingratitude and failures,

to gratefully thank Him for His great goodness to our Nation and our People, and

to earnestly pray for His continued blessings and guidance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed this twenty-eighth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight, and of the State, the one hundred eleventh.

Harold LeVander
GOVERNOR

Joseph L. Donovan
SECRETARY OF STATE

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