

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

A Proclamation of Thanksgiving

Festivals of Thanksgiving in days of good fortune and in times of plenty have become a universal custom, but the American tradition of Thanksgiving Day has served to intensify and hallow the national expression of a continent as old as mankind.

The Pilgrims who observed the first Thanksgiving Day on the rockbound coast of New England, gave praise to Almighty God for their preservation. These who laid the foundations of this nation more than a century and a half later, that men might have a new legacy of freedom, stressed civil and religious liberty among the gifts for which they were especially grateful. Each succeeding generation, while mindful of material blessings which life in the United States afforded, in turn gave thanks for something more precious than these. This man was wiser by what they revere, what they are.

In proclaiming Thursday, November 23, 1945 as Thanksgiving Day I strongly urge my fellow citizens of Minnesota to emulate the example of other generations of our citizens who have not this day spent as a day of thoughtful prayer and thanksgiving to the Author of Liberty and turned to the Holy Scriptures of their respective creeds for suitable expression of their gratitude and for wisdom to guide them in the future, and also as a day of patriotic re-dedication when the flag of our country is appropriately displayed on public buildings and elsewhere as an expression of our love of country and our faith in its future.

We have been privileged in our time to lay a costly sacrifice upon the altar of our country to preserve the American heritage. Now, in a new day of peace, we look forward with hope to the future, and on this most typical of American holidays, Thanksgiving Day, we may well join in the words of a beloved American song -

American! American!  
God shed his grace on thee  
And crown thy good with brotherhood,  
From sea to shining sea.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol in St. Paul this 16th day of November, 1945.

*Edward J. Kelly*  
GOVERNOR

Attent:

*Wm. A. Johnson*  
Secretary of State

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STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED  
NOV 16 1945

*Wm. A. Johnson*  
Secretary of State