

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Since our nation's founding, many Americans have turned to prayer for inspiration, strength and guidance as an essential act of faith. Prayer was such a primary concern to our founding fathers that freedom of religion was declared as one of our nation's basic tenets; and

WHEREAS: National days of collective prayer and fasting were established as early as 1775 by the Second Continental Congress. In 1952, the U.S. Congress approved a joint resolution formalizing a national observance in the tradition of prayer, now held the first Thursday of each May; and

WHEREAS: The National Day of Prayer is a day for all Americans of faith to come together, regardless of background, to pray for wisdom, guidance and protection on behalf of families, government leaders, military and civil servants; and

WHEREAS: As we give thanks as a nation and as a city for the freedoms that we hold dear, we must not forget those across the world who are being held or persecuted because of their religious convictions and beliefs; and

WHEREAS: We pray for American citizens and the preservation of freedom around the world, giving thanks for our shared American heritage. We pray for our leaders in government, military, media, faith, nonprofits, education and business sectors; and

WHEREAS: The City of Jacksonville joins the nation in observing May 3, 2018, as the 67th annual National Day of Prayer. The National Day of Prayer Task Force has named this year's theme "Pray for America: UNITY," taken from Ephesians 4:3: "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

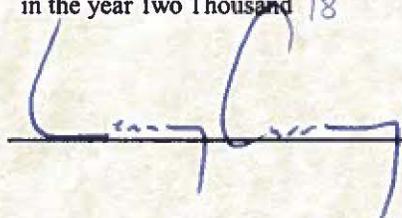
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2018 as

DAY OF PRAYER

in Jacksonville and encourage all interested citizens to pray for our city, the state of Florida, leaders of all sectors, and the United States of America and its people.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 1st day of May
in the year Two Thousand 18


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA