



Proclamation

WHEREAS, throughout our history, Americans of many faiths have long turned to prayer for guidance, peace, and hope; and

WHEREAS, Gastonians of different faiths pray to express their beliefs, ask for help, strength, or to give thanks over blessings; and

WHEREAS, the theme for this year's observance of the **National Day of Prayer** will be, "Lift Up the Word, Light Up the World"; and

WHEREAS, a **National Day of Prayer** has been a part of our heritage since it was declared by the First Continental Congress in 1774, and was further established by a joint resolution in the United States Congress in 1952; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 legislation setting aside the first Thursday of May each year as a **National Day of Prayer** was passed unanimously by both Houses of Congress and signed by President Ronald Reagan; and

WHEREAS, the **National Day of Prayer** is an opportunity for Americans of all faiths to join in united prayer to acknowledge their blessings, to request healing for wounds endured, to pray for continued guidance for our leaders, and bring wholeness to our communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, on this **National Day of Prayer** let those of us who choose to do so join together in prayer for our nation and our neighbors, pray for guidance, and seek to unify our hearts, our city, and our country through prayer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I Richard Franks, Mayor and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby proclaim **May 2, 2024** as

"A DAY OF PRAYER IN GASTONIA"

and urge all citizens of Gastonia to observe the day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 16th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

Richard Franks, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk