

A Day of Thanksgiving –

An American tradition...

A *PROCLAMATION* by the President of the United States:

It has pleased Almighty God to prolong our national life another year, defending us with His guardian care against unfriendly designs from abroad, and granting us many victories over the enemy.



It has also pleased our Heavenly Father to favor our citizens in their homes, our soldiers in their camps and our sailors on the rivers and seas with unusual health. He has augmented our free population by emancipation and by immigration, while He has opened to us new sources of wealth, and has crowned the labor of our working men in every department of industry with abundant rewards.

Moreover, He has inspired our minds and hearts with courage and resolution for the great civil war into which we have been brought by our adherence to the cause of Freedom and Humanity, and to afford us reasonable hopes of an ultimate deliverance from all our dangers and afflictions.

*Therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do, hereby, set apart the last Thursday in November next as a day to be observed by all my fellow-citizens as a **day of Thanksgiving** and Praise to Almighty God the Creator and Ruler of the Universe.*

And I recommend on that occasion they humble themselves in the dust, and offer up prayers to the Great

Disposer of events for Peace, Union, and Harmony throughout the land, which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and our posterity throughout all generations.

Done at the city of Washington this twentieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty four, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

Abraham Lincoln
20th October, 1864