



**A Proclamation by Ellis County Commissioners' Court  
in Recognition of the National Day of Prayer on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, since the Colonial Era, Americans have developed a religious tradition entirely unique in the world – that of tolerance for all faiths combined with fervent celebration of Christian heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, in reverence for the blessings bestowed upon them by God as they tamed a new continent, early Americans maintained a tradition of opening each public meeting with a humble invocation of prayer; and

**WHEREAS**, with a zeal equal to their adherence to Christian tradition, the founders of the American Republic enshrined the right to religious freedom in the United States Constitution, as well as all state constitutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the right to worship according to their own consciences, as opposed to the dictates of a national government, constituted one of the fundamental rallying cries of the Texas Revolution of 1836; and

**WHEREAS**, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution reads that, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." and

**WHEREAS**, Article I, Section VI of the Texas Constitution reads that, "All men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences;" and

**WHEREAS**, alongside their dedication to religious liberty, Americans have been renowned worldwide for their religious fervor, as famously declared to be "the surest pledge of freedom" by Alexis de Tocqueville; and


**WHEREAS**, the Providence of Almighty God has guided the American Republic to serve as a beacon of hope for mankind through more than two centuries of monumental development, warfare, and harrowing sacrifices to advance the cause of liberty; and

**WHEREAS**, in solemn recognition of the role that faith has played in our history, and to assert America's unique religious tradition in the face of growing threats to our heritage, Congress passed a law in 1952 to establish the National Day of Prayer; and

**WHEREAS**, during the National Day of Prayer, Congress, state, and local governments recognize the importance of prayer by citizens and public officials to humbly call upon our Creator for guidance;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that we, the Commissioners of Ellis County, recognize May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as the National Day of Prayer in Ellis County, Texas.

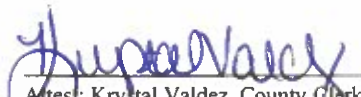
In witness thereof, signed the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2022 –

  
Randy Simson, Commissioner, Precinct 1

  
Todd Little, Ellis County Judge

  
Lane Grayson, Commissioner, Precinct 2

  
Paul Perry, Commissioner, Precinct 3

  
Attes: Krystal Valdez, County Clerk

  
Kyle Butler, Commissioner, Precinct 4

