

November 24, 1938

[Thanksgiving Day Proclamation-]

FDR Speech File

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THANKSGIVING DAY - 1936

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, the twenty-fourth of November, 1936, as a day of general thanksgiving.

Our ~~fathers~~ ^{ancestors} ~~observed~~ ^{observed} such a day as they hewed a nation from the primeval forest, ~~and~~ ^{the} observance was consecrated when George Washington issued a Thanksgiving proclamation in the first year of his presidency. ~~We remember also that Abraham Lincoln even in a period of differences, now happily healed,~~ set apart "a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens".

A / For the blessings which have been ours during the present year we have ample cause to be thankful. ~~Our~~ ^{Our} lands have yielded a goodly harvest, and the toiler in shop and ~~factory~~ ^{mill} ~~is receiving~~ ^{receives} a more just return for his labor. ~~We~~ ^{We} have cherished and preserved our democracy. ~~We~~ ^{We} have lived in peace and understanding with our neighbors and have seen the world escape the impending disaster of a general war.

B / Let us then on the day appointed offer our devotions and our humble thanks to Almighty God and pray

that by our way of living we may merit the continuance
of his goodness.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
and caused the seal of the United States of America
to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this day
of , in the
year of our Lord
nineteen hundred
and thirty-eight,
and of the
Independence
of the United
States of America
the one hundred and
sixty-third.

By the President:

Secretary of State.

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Our fathers observed such a day as they hewed a nation from the primeval forest, and that observance was consecrated when George Washington issued a Thanksgiving proclamation in the first year of his presidency. We remember also that Abraham Lincoln even in a period of differences, now happily healed, set apart "a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens".

For the blessings which have been ours during the present year we have ample cause to be thankful. Our lands have yielded a goodly harvest, and the toiler in shop and factory is receiving a more just return for his labor. We have cherished and preserved our democracy. We have lived in peace and understanding with our neighbors and have seen the world escape the impending disaster of a general war.

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P.P.F.
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Thus from our earliest recorded history, Americans have thanked God for their blessings. In our deepest natures, in our very souls, we, like all mankind since the earliest origin of mankind, turn to God in time of trouble and in time of happiness. "In God We Trust".

For the blessings which have been ours during the present year we have ample cause to be thankful.

Our lands have yielded a goodly harvest, and the toiler in shop and mill receives a more just return for his labor.

We have cherished and preserved our democracy.

We have lived in peace and understanding with our neighbors and have seen the world escape the impending disaster of a general war.

In the time of our fortune it is fitting that we offer prayers for unfortunate people in other lands who are in dire distress at this our Thanksgiving Season.

Let us remember them in our families and our churches when, on the day appointed, we offer our thanks to Almighty God. May we by our way of living merit the continuance of His goodness.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this nineteenth day
of November, in the year of
our Lord nineteen hundred
and thirty-eight, and of
the Independence of the
United States of America
the one hundred and
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By the President:

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(SEAL)

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

By the President:

CORDELL HULL

Secretary of State.

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