

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The word “justice” appears in many of the United States’ most cherished documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Pledge of Allegiance; and

WHEREAS: The National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ) founded the national observance of Justice Sunday™ in 2000 to honor the role of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a clergy and drum major for justice; and

WHEREAS: The Justice Sunday™ weekend commemorates the spirit and selfless acts of thousands of diverse faith and community volunteers, past and present, to preserve human dignity and serve this present age of social change; and

WHEREAS: The year-long continuum of Justice Sunday™, which begins January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, will usher in the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which aimed to overcome legal barriers at the state and local levels that prevented African Americans from exercising their right to vote as guaranteed under the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and;

WHEREAS: The annual theme of the Justice Sunday™ continuum, “A Charge To Keep We Have: To Serve This Present Age” challenges all to commit before and serve beyond the MLK National Day of Service; and

WHEREAS: The Justice Sunday™ Continuum will, in partnership with the 400 Years of African American History Commission, recognize the path forward from the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the documented arrival of the first enslaved Africans in the English colonies, key contributions to the fabric of this nation, the right to self-determination, and the pursuit of justice; and

WHEREAS: National Mentoring Month is observed each January during which NAFJ partners with institutions of faith, education, federal, state, municipal, and community stakeholders to encourage mentoring as a service priority, and

WHEREAS: NAFJ encourages the use of National Park Service sites as resources to promote civic dialog and interpretation of relevant themes such as civil rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as

**JUSTICE SUNDAY IN ARKANSAS**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of our Lord 2019.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:  
  
John Thurston, Secretary Of State