



**NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson, Sr. '64 Day of Service
Thursday, April 23, 2026**

Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson Sr. Day of Service is a university-wide observance that calls on Aggie Nation to honor the legacy of a distinguished alumnus of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University through meaningful acts of service, civic engagement, and community uplift. Proclaimed by Chancellor James R. Martin II for Thursday, April 23, 2026, during National Volunteer Month, this Day of Service recognizes Rev. Jackson's profound impact and lifelong commitment to advancing human dignity, opportunity, and justice for underserved communities. His leadership and advocacy have inspired generations to believe in the power of moral courage and collective action. This observance invites alumni, students, faculty, professional staff, university boards, and affiliated entities to engage in reflection, learning, and service projects that embody the values of leadership, faith, resilience, and social responsibility that define both Rev. Jackson's legacy and the Aggie tradition.



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PROCLAMATION

**BY THE CHANCELLOR OF
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University**

REVEREND JESSE LOUIS JACKSON SR. DAY

Thursday, April 23, 2026

WHEREAS, Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson Sr. enrolled at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1960, where he distinguished himself as a student leader and athlete, and where his commitment to scholarship, service and social justice was sharpened within the rich intellectual and moral tradition of this great land-grant institution; and

WHEREAS, as an alumnus of North Carolina A&T, Rev. Jackson has become one of the most consequential moral voices and public leaders of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, advancing the cause of civil rights, human dignity and equal opportunity in the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Jackson worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and played a significant, vital role in the modern Civil Rights Movement, helping to extend the promise of American democracy to those long denied its protections and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, as founder and president of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, Rev. Jackson has championed economic justice, educational access, voting rights, labor rights and empowerment for marginalized communities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Jackson made history as a candidate for President of the United States in 1984 and 1988, becoming the first African American to mount competitive national campaigns for the presidency, broadening civic participation and inspiring millions to believe that the highest offices of the land are within reach of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, as an international advocate for peace and human rights, Rev. Jackson has engaged in humanitarian diplomacy in war-torn regions and on behalf of hostages and political prisoners, seeking reconciliation, relief and justice for the poor, the oppressed and the dispossessed across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of service and leadership within the Jackson family is deeply intertwined with North Carolina A&T, as his wife, Jacqueline L.B. Jackson, and three of their six children are



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also proud alumni of this University, reflecting a multigenerational commitment to the Aggie tradition of excellence and service; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, founded in 1891 as a land-grant institution, remains steadfast in its mission today, as a doctoral research university and America’s largest historically Black university, to advance knowledge, cultivate leaders and serve as a catalyst for social and economic transformation; and

WHEREAS, the life and work of Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson Sr. exemplify the highest ideals of this institution — courage, faith, intellect, resilience and an abiding belief in the power of collective action to bend the arc of history toward justice;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James R. Martin II, Chancellor of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, do hereby proclaim Thursday, April 23, 2026, as

REV. JESSE LOUIS JACKSON SR. DAY

across the North Carolina A&T alumni population, student body, faculty and professional staff ranks.

I call upon Aggie Nation to observe this special day with reflection, learning and acts of service, putting into action the values to which Rev. Jackson dedicated his life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University to be affixed this twenty-seventh day of February.

James R. Martin II
Chancellor
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University