



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

A Call to Silence

**ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton Weekly Video Message
Aug. 20, 2021**

In these last days it seems that we are just inundated with tragic news. We see the devastation in Haiti after the assassination of its president, and then a 7.2 magnitude earthquake followed by Tropical Storm Grace. And we look around the world and see Afghanistan, people fleeing desperately, clinging to an airplane in order to get out of the country. They are almost without hope and certainly living in a point of fear.

There are ways for us to help. Lutheran Disaster Response is already active in Haiti, and you can donate there. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is also ready to receive Afghan refugees. But maybe, just for a short time, could we be quiet? Could we enter into some silence? Can we turn off all of the analysis and the talking heads and the constant news feed and just be silent, to listen to those who are affected by these events and also to listen for God?

Psalm 62 says, "For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken."

Enter into this silence, because in silence we might be able to hear.

Be well, dear church.