



Grain

12 Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak for your servant is listening." 1 Samuel 3:10

Field

"Our faith instructs us to take seriously positions of leadership, not to lead others astray and to be careful about what we say and do..."

For the good of the nation, so that we might end the current horror and prepare the way for binding up the nation's wounds, we, as leaders of the member communions of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC), believe the time has come for the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, to resign his position immediately. If he is unwilling to resign, we urge you to exercise the options provided by our democratic system."

—Open Letter to Vice President Pence, Members of Congress, and The Cabinet Calling for the Removal of President Trump from Office, from the National Council of Churches, including ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton's signature

Read ELCA article, which includes the full letter [HERE](#). Petition for all to sign [HERE](#).

Thoughts

"Speak for your servant is listening." To whom do we utter those words? On Jan. 6 in Washington, D.C., many of the same people who celebrated the brandishing of a confederate flag, wore Nazi symbols, elevated a noose, and trashed the Capitol, were also carrying Bibles. Whom were they listening to and serving? Not Christ.

Beforehand, we realized that the confluence of the particular groups descending upon D.C. spelled violence, but what happened was still shocking. I'm glad to be shocked. The president's sanctioned insurrection of white people who want Americans of color dead and gone should traumatize us all.

Last week was also a time for people of faith to say, Speak, God, and help us to listen. At Luther Place Memorial Church near the Capitol, clergy prayed for the end of violence and white nationalism. People of all faiths from around the country have joined in prayer and meditation. Many are asking for concrete action, as shown in the above letter that the ELCA signed on to.

We continue to pray for the grace to listen beyond the noise of lies embedded in our history, and to love. I leave you with an invitation to view and/or listen to these brief excellent videos:

[Bishop Leila Ortiz, Metro D.C. Synod, on January 6](#) [Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on January 8](#)

Happy Monday!

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Many Blessings upon you,

Pastor Cindy