



Northeastern Ohio Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.”

[2 Corinthians 1:3-4]

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus.

Like most, if not all, of you, I mourn the heartbreaking loss of human life because of the gun violence in Las Vegas on Sunday night, October 1, 2017. It is at times like these that we turn to the word of God in Holy Scripture in an effort to make sense of the actions of one individual.

In 2013, the ELCA Conference of Bishops wrote a pastoral letter in response to the shootings at Sandy Hook. As it was back then, the document is just as valuable for us now. It also contains some valuable resources that I commend to you as you process this recent tragedy. You may link to the letter by clicking **HERE**. Please share with anyone who may be interested.

We pray for strength in the days ahead, that where this world groans in grief and pain, the Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to God's light and life.

In loving care,

Bishop Abraham D. Allende