



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

**The Gift of our LGBTQIA+ Siblings**  
**ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton Weekly Video Message**  
**June 24, 2020**

“These are troubling times. The bad news can seem relentless. Anxiety and fear can be heightened, but this week I want us to celebrate. This is Pride Month and there is a lot in which to rejoice. Just last week the Supreme Court ensured the civil rights of LGBTQIA+ people, ensuring that they could not be discriminated against in the workplace.

“But this celebration and this Pride Month is not just something that happens one month out of the year. We celebrate all year round for the many gifts and the ways that this church and this country have been enriched by the gifts of LGBTQIA+ people.

“Our congregations are stronger. Our communities are more vibrant. There's still more work to be done and we will do it. But we know that we're moving closer to the time when these siblings cannot be made invisible by the church or by the country. They are seen and always have been seen by God. And now we can see that, in fact, all of us, all of us are created in God's image.

“Peace. Be well, dear church.”