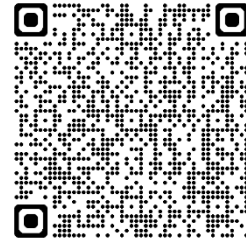




ELCA Statement on Supreme Court Ruling That Allows Racial Profiling in Immigration Enforcement

Past ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton issued a statement on the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling allowing racial profiling in immigration enforcement. [September 11, 2025] She stated, “My concern is grounded in Scripture, ELCA social teaching and care for our neighbors. Scripture is clear: every human being is created in the image of God. Racial profiling denies that image and violates the dignity it confers. It is not only unjust — it is inhumane. This church’s teaching is also clear, having expressed grave objections to patterns of racial, ethnic and religious profiling because it “stigmatizes those who are innocent of any offense” (ELCA social statement [*The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries*](#), p. 40). Every neighbor, regardless of immigration status, deserves safety, dignity and equal protection under the law. Racial profiling, a legacy of white supremacy, is rooted in the sin of racism (ELCA social statement [*Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture*](#), p. 5).



“Our religious and political leaders have a moral responsibility to condemn racist rhetoric and to speak with respect for the innate dignity of all persons, regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or faith tradition and we call our leaders to honor this responsibility; and... Language that refers to people of color or immigrants with words like "invasion" or "infestation" or "white replacement" is racism and we condemn it..”— Condemnation of White Supremacy and Racist Rhetoric [CA19.04.18]

What can people from St. Matthew do?



[ACTION ALERT: Tell Congress You Support Welcoming Refugees \(Ongoing\)](#)

[Ask Congress to defend investments in refugee resettlement while urging the administration to restart fair, unbiased refugee admissions.](#)

Customize this message with your faith convictions and connections to refugee resettlement in your community. Thank you for speaking out in support of refugee resettlement! Learn more here about ELCA's strategy to welcome, accompany and support immigrants and refugees in our communities.

[Posted: 9/18/2025]



ELCA Sign On Letters:

- [April 10](#) – “We, the undersigned 85 local and national faith-based organizations, urge you to **consider the constitutional rights and inherent dignity of all immigrants** as you draft the budget reconciliation bill.” Letter to leadership of Senate and House Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Committees on the Judiciary.
- [Mar 20](#) – “The undersigned institutional investors recognize the urgent need for comprehensive immigration reform to ensure economic stability, workforce resilience, and sustainable growth. Sound and just immigration policy is not only a matter of human rights but also an economic imperative that strengthens our workforce, enhances innovation, and secures the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in the global economy... We call on Congress to reject piecemeal immigration-related orders and directives that only prolong uncertainty and create confusion and instead **come together to enact comprehensive immigration reform** that protects all stakeholders and fosters long-term economic growth.” Investor Statement through the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility to members of Congress.