

Alive

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METRO D.C. SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2021

Resolution Number 2021-004A

Date Submitted: April 30, 2021

Title: Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Genocide

Primary Sponsor: Mr. Joseph Triolo, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Springfield, VA

WHEREAS the Ottoman Empire systematically killed Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks throughout the first part of the 20th century¹; and,

WHEREAS the United Nations defines genocide as, “acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, such as:

- killing members of the group;
- causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; and
- forcibly transferring children of the group to another group;”²and,

WHEREAS on October 29, 2019, the US House of Representatives passed legislation recognizing the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire against Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks³; and,

WHEREAS April 24th is recognized as Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day⁴; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod in Assembly memorialize the 2022 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Churchwide Assembly to publicly recognize the systematic killings of Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire as a genocide and mark April 24 as an annual day of commemoration in mourning for those lost during the genocide committed against Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks, including the addition of this day to the liturgical calendar; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the ELCA advocate for an end to all genocide throughout the world.



Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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References:

1 -<https://books.google.com/books?id=0kBZBwAAQBAJ&pg=PA163#v=onepage&q&f=false>

2 -<https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/genocide.shtml>

3 -<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/296/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22genocide%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=1>

4 --<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/24/statement-by-president-joe-biden-on-armenian-remembrance-day>