

*Messiah Lutheran Church  
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*May 22, 2022  
Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*To share the Good News of Jesus Christ  
and to invite all to join us in faith, worship, and service.*

The service will be livestreamed at 10:45 am on Messiah's FB page, and that video will be available later on the church website and YouTube. Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/MessiahMech/>

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
8154 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
Pastor: The Rev. Ryan Radtke

Church: (804) 746-7134; Email: MessiahMech@gmail.com; Website: MessiahMech.com

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 22, 2022**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Welcome visitors! May the Spirit of Christ fill your heart as we worship today. You are invited to make Messiah your church home.*

**EASTER GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: ***He is risen, indeed! Alleluia***

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: ***Amen***

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: ***Amen***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Gracious God,

C: ***have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: ***Amen.***

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936  
 Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789  
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**THE GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray:

**C: Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON Acts 16:9-15**

**Lector**

A reading from Acts.

*A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.*

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND LESSON: Revelation 21:10, 22--22:56**

**Lector**

A reading from Revelation.

*John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.*

<sup>10</sup>And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by

day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

<sup>22:1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL: John 14:23-29**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.*

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

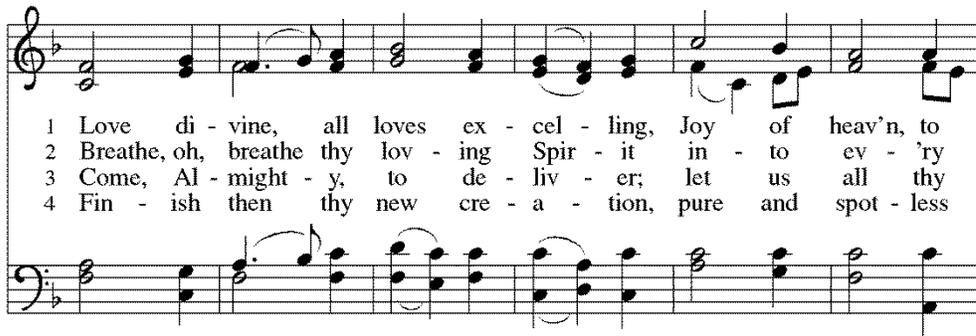
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### **SERMON**

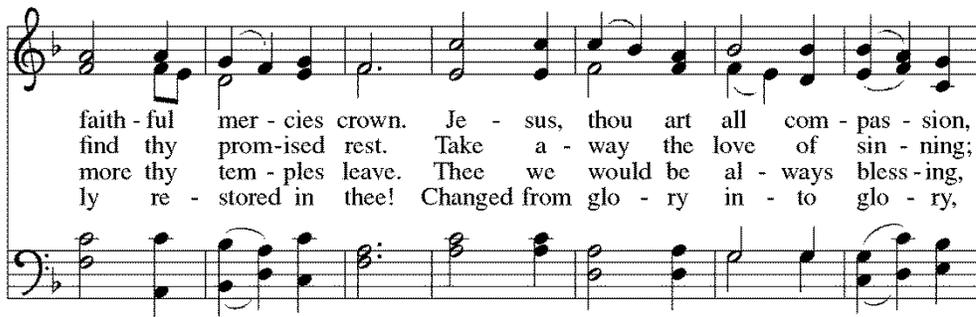
**Pastor Ryan Radtke**



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

## QUILT BLESSING

A: Let us pray. O Lord our God, maker of all things, you have blessed us with so many gifts — a good eye for color, the ability to make fine stitches, the skills to develop ever-new and exciting patterns. Now we offer the fruits of our labors, the quilts we have made, to you.

**C: We dedicate these quilts to your service, trusting that your love will go wherever each quilt is sent, making them more than just pieces of material, a collection of items — you will make each piece we have created an expression of love.**

**There is no way for us to imagine the power and effect an act of love can have on a person's life — how you can use something as commonplace as a quilt to radiate your love from us to the world. May these be used in your service and become blessings for all those who receive and make use of them.**

A: Lord, we know that all we possess comes from your loving hand. Give us grace to honor you with all of our being: draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYERS

A: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. *[Brief silence]*

A: God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace (especially). Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died when we meet together at your river of life. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Heavenly Father, You have generously blessed us with families. Thank you for your guidance and protection. As you love and care for us, may we also always love and care for our families and keep them in our prayers. We pray this week for the Ewing and Ford families as well as our Messiah family. May You keep us all from danger and sickness and guard our hearts so that we are reminded of Your Grace. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## **PEACE-IN-PLACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*\*\*Please share signs of peace with those in your immediate vicinity only. If any are not comfortable making physical contact during the peace, please share peace in other ways.*

## **THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

**C: *Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen***

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: *And also with you.***

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: *We lift them to the Lord.***

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

## **PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: *Our Father, who art in heaven,***

***hallowed be thy name,***

***thy kingdom come,***

***thy will be done,***

***on earth as it is in heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread;***

***and forgive us our trespasses,***

***as we forgive those***

***who trespass against us;***

***and lead us not into temptation,***

***but deliver us from evil.***

***For thine is the kingdom,***

***and the power, and the glory,***

***forever and ever. Amen.***

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**C: *Thanks be to God.***

### **COMMUNION**

#### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ that you have received strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more.

Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen**

#### **BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen**

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,

the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
 the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—

The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
 our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,

the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
 em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.

The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
 lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
 Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing

to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
 give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

## POSTLUDE

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**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – SUNDAY, May 22, 2022**

Pianist: Debbie Walker  
 Lay Assistants: (1st Lay Asst) Becky Collie (2nd Lay Asst.) Gladys Hubert  
 Lectors: Gladys Hubert  
 Acolyte: Anna Radtke  
 Greeters: Sue & Steve Gilnett  
 Ushers: Bill Weaver & Jake Addair  
 Altar Guild: Gladys Hubert & Rosalee Cline  
 Counters: Becky Collie & Leroy Deere  
 Live Streamer: Valerie Williams

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*Announcements*

**PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Ryan will be in and out of the office this week. Please call or email him to set up an appointment, at 507-360-7276 and/or messiahmechpr@gmail.com.

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Here is this week's information based on our 2022 budget.

- Contributions to the general fund averaged \$3,146.57 (down from \$3,213.97 through May 15, 2022).
- We are \$18,508.57 behind the year-to-date budget needs. (increasing from \$16,302.57)
- Weekly budget need is \$4,072.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

It is with great pleasure to announce that Parks and Recreation for Hanover County will be using some space at Messiah again for their summer program (fellowship hall, restrooms, and a couple of classrooms). They will be with us for 3 weeks: June 20-24, July 18-22, and July 25-29 from 7:30am-5:30pm. It is our policy to have someone from Messiah to be present during these hours. On the days that Davina is working, she fills that roll. Volunteers are needed for the times that she is not working. There are no expectations other than opening and/or closing the building if needed, and simply being in the building should something arise that would require our attention. A person who teleworks from home could even volunteer since our internet has improved significantly. A volunteer could also read a book, watch a movie, or bring a project from home. **PLEASE SEE THE SIGN-UP SHEET** on the bulletin board in the narthex for time slots. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Shaw or Pastor Ryan. Your help is truly appreciated!

## **2022 JOAN BARNES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT**

We are pleased to announce that application information and applications for the Joan Barnes Memorial Scholarship are now available on our church website. Please go to <https://messiahmech.com/> and click on the "About" tab. The Application(s) and Application Information for the scholarships will be found on the drop-down menu. There are two two-page applications (one Initial and one Renewal) and one page of information, making a total of five docs in all. Applications must be received in our office on, or postmarked on or before the absolute deadline of **JUNE 1, 2022** with no exceptions. There are applications there for first-time (Initial) applicants and a Renewal Application if you have received a previous scholarship from us. After re-reading page 1 of the packet, please email Sally Bennett at [sallybennett3317@gmail.com](mailto:sallybennett3317@gmail.com) if you have any questions about this process.

## **ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION STUDY**

This Sunday we will continue our series on the book *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Father Gregory Boyle. It tells the story of Father Boyle's work with gang populations in East Los Angeles, and it is full of powerful stories of grace, redemption, and compassion – perfect for the Easter season of resurrection. If you haven't already secured a copy, a handful are available for purchase today. We are discussing chapter 3 for today.

## **NEXT PAL MEETING (June 1, 2022)**

Messiah's quilting group will continue to meet during the summer. If you are unable to attend contact either Glady (814) 449-1392 or Cheryl (804) 366-0074. Decision to cancel will be made if there are only a couple attending for any of the summer dates. We will continue to put together quilt squares for tops and assemble quilts. Upcoming dates: June 15, July 6, August 3 and 17

## **COVID PROTOCOLS UPDATE FROM COUNCIL**

The Church Council continues to monitor the local COVID numbers. Hanover recently reentered the "medium" level, meaning we will follow our approved plan to limit some worship activities and encourage everyone to wear masks. When we come back to "low" levels, after a two-week period to make sure we stay there, we will bring back the worship and other church activities once more.

## **KAIROS REGISTRATION IS OPEN**

Kairos will be held from **June 26 (Sunday evening) to July 1 (Friday noon) at Roanoke College**. Kairos is the Synod's week-long faith formation event, offered each summer for youth who will be 9th-12th graders in the fall. Kairos has many special features: event theme t-shirts, Open Talent Mic Show, faith testimonies, comic relief, reflection time, prayer stations, speed friending, t-shirt fashion show, small group time, and more! This event is a chance for youth who are already committed to a life of faith to be part of a unique Christian community for an

entire week, to have a fresh experience of the grace and presence of God in that community, and to develop habits for discipleship that can be taken home as they live out their baptismal call to be followers of Jesus. Check out the following link for more information: <https://vasynod.org/event/kairos/>. Registration deadline is May 15, although it may be extended.

### **POWER IN THE SPIRIT REGISTRATION NOW OPEN -July 14-16, 2022**

What does it mean to be a leader in the Church and a follower of Jesus? The words of Saint Thomas reveal a disciple whose faith in Jesus makes him willing to go where Jesus goes, even when danger and death are real possibilities. For Thomas, it's better to be unsafe with Jesus than to stay behind as Jesus heads into dangerous places. For the Church today, we just may be called to a similar faith that goes with Jesus—even into danger. At Power in the Spirit 2022, we'll explore these themes, and more! Come and learn! Come for fellowship! Come to serve your neighbor! Come to Power in the Spirit 2022! Check out this link for more information: <https://vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/>.

Registration deadline is July 1.

### **IN-PERSON SYNOD GATHERING REGISTRATION IS OPEN**

**We look forward to gathering in-person as the Virginia Synod on July 15-16** in conjunction with Power in the Spirit to celebrate ministries of service from around the Virginia Synod, gather together for worship, and learn from one another.

**Everyone can attend.** Unlike an Assembly where the number of participants is limited, anyone in the Virginia Synod can attend the Synodical Gathering. Congregations are encouraged to send at least two leaders, but anyone interested can register. Registration deadline is July 1.

There are **two options for Registration:**

- **On-Campus Housing** includes the event, one-night lodging on the campus of Roanoke College, plus Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast. The cost will be \$140.
- **Commuter** includes the event, including Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast. The cost will be \$100.

**You are automatically registered for the Synodical Gathering if you attend Power in the Spirit.**

Even if you can't attend the whole gathering, you are invited to be a **part of a Festival Worship Service at College Lutheran on Friday, July 15 at 7:00 PM.**