



## Liturgy for Commissioning Synod Participants

The 2022 Synod of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, is being held June 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> at Winston-Salem State University. The theme is “God Is In The Other Place,” based on Hymn 793 in our Book of Worship.

*(verses 1 and 2)*

*When we lift our pack and go, when we seek another country,  
moving far from all we know, when we long to journey free --*

*God is in the other place, God is in another's face,  
in the faith we travel by, God is in the other place.*

*Through the loneliness of night,  
through the sky's uncharted spaces  
not a sparrow falls in flight but a loving God will care --*

*God is in the other place, God is in another's face,  
in the faith we travel by, God is in the other place.*

Heather Allen, Sarah Brent and Pernell Collett, for many months God has been preparing you for the important work of synod. Do you accept the responsibilities assigned to you and covenant with God to be faithful, as best you can, as you also trust in the grace and faithfulness of Christ, our Redeemer?

*I do.*

Members of this community, do you pledge your support for these delegates and commit yourself to praying for God's Spirit to bless and comfort them, and to guide their thoughts, words, and decisions with holy wisdom?

***We give thanks and will pray for all who gather to discern God's leading for our Province at this time.***

Our discernment of God's leading does not occur in isolation, but takes place as we listen carefully for the Holy Spirit in the midst of our gathering together.

***Through conversation and reflection, intentionality and mutual trust, we embark on the shared journey of listening for God's invitation, a journey of cooperation with God that renews us in love.***

Let us pray together:

***Almighty God, Creator of the Universe and Author of our lives, guide into preparation those who will participate in our Synod. Make them ready to listen and speak, undergirded with love and with a spirit of respect, being open to the contributions of others. Guide their minds and hearts to decisions that will glorify you and honor your children. And above all, help those who gather at Synod to discern the way of Faith, Love, and Hope – through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*(verses 3 and 4)*

*Sons and daughters must depart, friends will go on other journeys,  
only constant is the heart that can trust its God to be --*

*God is in the other place, God is in another's face,  
in the faith we travel by, God is in the other place.*

*In the hands outstretched to greet,  
through the open doors of strangers  
there is love we yet can meet and believe the Christ is there --*

*God is in the other place, God is in another's face,  
in the faith we travel by, God is in the other place.*

*When We Lift Our Pack and Go (MBW 793)*

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