

Synod Assembly Becoming Faith Practice

Take a moment—really take it. Put your feet on the ground. Notice your breath. Inhale...

Exhale...We gather here not as finished products—not as churches or ministries that have it all figured out—but as people, as a synod, in the middle of becoming.

I invite you to turn to someone near you—just one or two people. Answer this simple question: “Where have you seen signs of life—of becoming—in your life, ministry or community lately?” Now, let’s come back together. What you just named matters. Because the text doesn’t say *someday* you will be God’s children. It says: You are God’s children now. Not when your church grows. Not when the budget balances. Not when the conflict resolves. Now.

But then comes the tension: “*What we will be has not yet been revealed.*” We are... and we are becoming. That space in between? It can feel uncomfortable. Because we like clarity.

We like plans. We like knowing what comes next. But faith is not a finished blueprint—it’s a living relationship. Think about the early church. They didn’t know what they were becoming either. Think about your congregation. Your vocation. And even you. There are pieces still unfolding. And yet—this is holy ground. Because becoming means God is not done yet. Not with you. Not with your congregation. Not with this synod.

Now I invite you to hold your hands open in front of you. In one hand, silently name something that feels uncertain in your ministry or life right now. In the other hand, name something that gives you hope. (Brief pause) Now gently bring your hands together. This is what becoming looks like—holding uncertainty and hope at the same time. You don’t have to resolve it. Just hold it.

The promise is not that we will figure everything out. The promise is this: “*We will be like him, for we will see him as he is.*” Becoming is not about achieving perfection. It’s about being shaped by Christ. Little by little. Day by day. In acts of courage. In moments of compassion. In bold witness—yes, even in the spirit of Bold Faith. We become like Christ not all at once—but over time, together.

I  invite you to repeat after me:

Leader: We are God’s children now. **All:** We are God’s children now.

Leader: We are not finished yet. **All:** We are not finished yet.

Leader: God is still at work in us. **All:** God is still at work in us.

Leader: We are becoming. **All:** We are becoming.

God of becoming, you call us your beloved—right now, as we are. You meet us in the unfinished places, the uncertain paths, the unfolding stories. Give us courage to trust that you are still shaping us. Give us patience for what is not yet revealed. Give us eyes to see Christ—in one another, in our communities, in the work before us. Form us, together, into people who reflect your love in this world. We are yours. We are becoming. In the name of Jesus, Amen.