

# 2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Fall Session: September 26  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church • Gaithersburg, Maryland

**2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

May 8-9 and September 26  
Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, ELCA



God's work. Our hands.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### The Rev. Mark Allan Powell

The Rev. Mark Allan Powell is Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio and an internationally known theologian and Bible scholar. He is author of over 25 books and 100 published articles on theology and Bible and chairs the Historical Jesus Section of the Society of Biblical Literature.



Powell is an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, but is also known internationally and ecumenically. Powell has served two parishes (in Pasadena, Texas and in Richmond, Virginia) as well as serving for a time as Campus Pastor at Virginia Commonwealth University. Until recently he was the only Protestant member of the six-member Executive Committee of the Catholic Biblical Association. Powell has held invited lectureships internationally at schools in Estonia, Tanzania, and Russia, as well as at such American universities as Berkeley, Vanderbilt, and the University of Chicago.

Powell remains best known for his work in areas of literary criticism, Matthean studies, and Historical Jesus Studies. His next major academic project involves serving as editor for the forthcoming third edition of the Harper-Collins Bible Dictionary, the world's best-selling dictionary of the Bible. His books *Loving Jesus* and *Giving To God* are addressed to laity and offer semi-autobiographical guidance for discipleship in these vital areas of the Christian life.

Powell, who began his journalistic career in the '70s as a rock critic for *The Houston Post*, is also regarded as a leading expert on the subject of "contemporary Christian music." He has published over 1900 reviews of Christian recordings and is the author of a 1000-page encyclopedia that is regarded as the definitive reference work on the subject.



*See a brief presentation by  
the Rev. Mark Allan Powell  
on what congregations  
expect in a sermon at  
[http://www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=TIrRF0LyypE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TIrRF0LyypE).*

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