

— Alive for a Journey —

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“We Are Alive”

*Adapted from Charles Wesley’s “And Are We Yet Alive”
for the 2013 Susquehanna Annual Conference Opening Celebration*

© Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr.

Tune: “National Hymn”

*We are alive by God’s eternal grace.
We see Christ’s glory on each other’s face.
Joining together in our song of praise;
Salvation’s journey in our voices raised!*

*Troubles we’ve seen and fears we’ve fought within;
Striving to persevere until the end.
In spite of all, God’s love has brought us through
Leading us on, His Word is ever true.*

*Then let us boast of Christ’s redeeming pow’r
Making us new in love each passing hour.
Take up thy cross until the crown obtain;
Giving our lives that Jesus we may gain.*

*Alive in Christ together let us stand
To be the humble love of Jesus’ hands
Alive in Christ together we must go
That Jesus’ love the world may ever know.*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Festive Trumpet Tune”

Mr. Matthew Wensel, Organ, and Mr. Chris McKee, Trumpet

David German



...on a journey of faith

Opening Celebration

Annual Conference 2013
Messiah College, Grantham, PA

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The Susquehanna Annual Conference

Opening Celebration

Thursday, June 13, 2013 2:00 p.m.

Note: All hymn words and responsive readings will be projected on the screens.
*You are invited to stand.

GATHERING MUSIC

THE ENTRANCE OF THE BANNERS

“March for Trumpet and Organ”

Mr. Matthew Wensel, Organ, and Mr. Chris McKee, Trumpet

Craig Phillips

— **Alive to Praise** —

*THE PROCESSION OF THE BISHOP AND THE CABINET

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Please stand if you are able

Charles Wesley

*THE PRAYER OF PRAISE

Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God, with over a thousand tongues we sing of Your grace and mercy.
We praise You for Your holiness and might, and humbly ask that Your spirit of wisdom be upon us.

All: Be with us in this time of Holy Conferencing, O Lord, for by this means of grace we seek to expand Your kingdom.

Leader: Gracious God, Your prevenient grace has invited us on a journey of faith.
Your justifying grace has made us alive through the blood of Jesus Christ.
Your sanctifying grace is perfecting us together in Christ's love, so that we might continue offering salvation's journey to all people.

All: Equip us, O Lord, to discern Your will, and to worship You in spirit and truth.

Leader: By Your grace, assist us to proclaim – at all times and in all places – the matchless name of Jesus Christ, until that day when every knee shall bow and tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father!

All these things we ask and pray in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

*A MEDLEY OF PRAISE

“We're Here to Worship” with “The Heart of Worship”

— **Alive by Word and Spirit** —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: Gracious and Eternal God, You have called us out of the world and into Your presence for this time of Holy Conferencing. We pray this day that our time with You be girded in prayer and centered fully upon Your unchanging word.

All: By Your grace, O Lord, grant us willing eyes, willing ears, and willing hearts.

Leader: *Willing Eyes:*

All: That we may see truth on the pages of Holy Scripture and not depart from it.

Leader: *Willing Ears:*

All: That we may hear truth and never deny it.

Leader: *Willing Hearts:*

All: That truth may transform our hearts and make us alive in Christ's love.

Leader: All this we ask and pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joshua 1:1-9

Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr.
Conference Worship Leader
Selinsgrove, PA

THE EPISTLE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Rev. Lori J. Steffensen
State College District Superintendent

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:9-13

Mr. John Konieczny
Conference Lay Leader
Montoursville, PA

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP

Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Salsgiver

Dean of the Cabinet and Lewisburg District Superintendent

SERMON

“A Worthy Journey”

Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

MUSICAL RESPONSE

“Deep River”

Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr.

H. T. Burleigh