The 2018 Susquehanna Annual Conference

Opening Celebration

Thursday, May 31, 2018   2:15 p.m.

Ms. Michelle Campbell will provide sign language for this service.

The artwork on the bulletin cover was created by Charlotte Sustersic, age 11, St. Paul's UMC, State College, Pa.

Note: All hymn words and responsive readings will be projected on the screens.

*You are invited to stand.

GATHERING MUSIC

“We Are Singing for the Lord Is Our Light (Siyahamba)”
Hosanna Choir
St. Paul’s UMC - Scranton, Pa.

REPSONSIVE PRAYER

Pastor Manuel Valentin
Community UMC – New Cumberland, Pa.
Janet Harman
Hope UMC – Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Speaker: O Lord, we gather this day as members of the household of God coming from small churches, and large churches. City churches, suburban churches, and rural churches. Old churches with a rich heritage, and brand-new churches brimming with possibility.

People: And we are one with Christ.

Speaker: We all are different - we look different, act differently, and speak differently. We are of different ages, different genders, different races and ethnicities. We know different ways of worshipping and growing in You, O Lord.

People: And we are one with Christ.

Speaker: O Lord, we delight in all the ways you have made each of us unique and called us to be one with Christ. We celebrate that there is ONE Lord, ONE faith, ONE baptism, and ONE God of all who is over all, in all, and through all. Call to us once more, reminding us that we are indeed One with the Resurrected Christ. As we claim oneness in Christ, let Your church experience the unifying power of resurrection and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

All: We are one with Christ! Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 1:15-20
Rev. Dr. Randy Willis
Centre Grove UMC – Clearfield, Pa.
Rev. Dr. Joleen Willis
Westside UMC, Clearfield, Pa.

*SONG

“In Christ Alone”
Jake Bair
Director of Contemporary Worship, First UMC – Williamsport, Pa.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Lift High the Cross”
Dan Stokes
Minister of Music, Trinity UMC – New Cumberland, Pa.

*APOSTLES’ CREED

Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Salsgiver
Director, Connectional Ministries and Administrative Services

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.
SPECIAL MUSIC
“The Promise of Jesus to His Disciples”
Hosanna Chior
St. Paul’s UMC - Scranton, Pa.

THE LORD’S PRAYER
Lydia Zarefoss
Fishburn UMC – Hershey, Pa.
Isaac Salumu

*SONG
“We Are One In Christ Jesus”

SCRIPTURE
John 17:20-26

SERMON
“It’s About Jesus Christ”
Bishop Jeremiah J. Park
Resident Bishop of the Harrisburg Episcopal Area

SONGS
“How Great Is Our God”
“How Great Thou Art”

BENEDICTION
Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

POSTLUDE
“Siyahamba”

Throughout Annual Conference worship we will be invited to hold a cross.
A limited number of small crosses are available at the Bishop’s Partners In Mission
table for a donation to the fund.

Special thanks to our cross bearers:
Joshua Miller, Trinity UMC, New Cumberland, Pa.
Julia Briselli - YPMC Member, Grace UMC, Hummelstown, Pa.

Opening Celebration
Hershey Lodge - Hershey, Pa