

THAT'S A LOT OF CANDLES!



Theme: *The Day of Pentecost*

Scripture: *Acts 2:2-4*

Props: *A birthday cake (without candles)*

Do you like parties? Well, I brought something for us all to share later on. (*Show cake.*)

What does that say? “Happy Birthday”! This is a cake for a very special birthday. But did you notice it’s missing something? No candles! I didn’t put candles on because there would have been too many. You know how you put one candle on for each year? Well, for this cake I’d need almost 2,000 candles! They wouldn’t all fit!

You see, today is the birthday of the Christian church. God’s church was born almost 2,000 years ago. Let me tell you how it happened: It was the same year that Jesus was crucified. Fifty days after He was resurrected, the disciples were all gathered together to celebrate a Holy Day the Bible calls the Day of Pentecost.

Let me read you what happened. Acts 2:2-4 says, “Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house...They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.”

So on this day 2,000 years ago God began His church by giving His people His Holy Spirit, and the church began to grow right away

And Peter tells us how we can be a part of God’s church. In Acts 2:38 he says, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

So today’s a pretty special birthday. Let’s take a minute and thank God for it: Father God, thank you for your church. Thank you that it’s been here for 2,000 years, and thank you that it will always be here. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Song: “Spirit Song” or “Spirit of the Living God”