

## Pentecost: Birthday of the Church Worldwide

### Final Celebration: AMC 50

#### Gathering and Praising

VT There's a wild hope in the wind

Call to worship

VT 386 One is the Body

Welcome, Birthdays and Testimonies

*Why I came and why I stay*

VT 91 We Praise Thee, O God



#### Blessing and Repenting

(adapted from Kathy Galloway, *The Pattern of Our Days*)

L: God, our passionate life

We bless you for the infinite beauty of created things -

Soil, fire, wind, water -

For the love of land and people.

We bless you for the endurance of hope,

For the promise of renewal,

For the fleeting moments of light and clarity and joy.

**ALL: Blessed are you, God our passionate life.**

L: But if we have forgotten those who bear the marks of exile and desert upon their hands and feet and suffer them to go on bleeding, if we have dismembered the body of God

**ALL: have mercy on us, God,**

**and open our eyes yet again.**

**Ground us in justice. Root us in right relationship.**

**Give flesh to our words and worship**

**with the breath and peace of your Spirit**

**Until joy is our holy common ground. AMEN.**

#### Offering Ourselves and Our Money

Slide-show: Who we have been and who we are

Offering hymn VT 681 Everytime I feel the Spirit

#### Hearing the Word

I Corinthians 12:1-13 One body, many parts

VT 374 There Are Many Gifts

Children's time - Acts 2 Birthday of the church

Reflections on the future of AMC

*What I hope for in the next fifty years*

VT 43 Christ is alive and goes before us

#### Affirming Faith in God's Larger Purposes

Recovenanting

*All are invited to come add their fingerprints to the poster.*

*Covenanted members are invited to come sign their names on the photo collage.*

VT 636 Spirit Open My heart, VT 54 Kindle in us your love,

VT 57 Holy Spirit Come with Power

Sharing and Pastoral Prayer

Announcements (and approval of the slate)

Song of the Soul - (Chris Williamson)

***"Why don't you sing this song?***

***Why don't you sing along?***

***And we can sing for a long, long time!"***

*Thanks to Song Leader: Bev Lapp, Testimonies: Judith Davis, Ana Neufeld Weaver; Scripture readers: Dana Miller, Tristan Beechy-King, Julie Keim; Children's time: Ruth Kauffmann; Future Reflections: Norm Kauffmann, Sara Morris; Musicians and Dancers: Scott Hochstetler, Wilma Harder, Jim Kauffmann, Jim Stump, Ben Good-Elliott, Linda Schlabach Miller, Kathy Meyer-Reimer, Julie Keim, Leon Bauman, Bethany Bauman, Meribeth Shank, Michael Miller; Pastoral sharing and prayer: Anna Yoder Schlabach; Tech Crew: Patrick Coonan and Phil Good-Elliott; Visuals: Anniversary Quilt by Helen Glick; Worship leader: Mary Lehman Yoder*

## 2nd hour

Hymns to Regather (Take a candle from the basket)

VT 10 Here in This Place

VT 706 O Healing River

Here is time and space for you to make your own “birthday wishes” for Assembly. Alone or joining a circle of three people reflect on these questions:

*What will this church look like in fifty years? In ten years?  
What do you hope for? What do you wish for regarding your  
own participation? What do you hope for the generations to  
come? Light a candle, make a wish and blow it out.*

**The light that was in one place at one time  
is now in all places at all times**

VT 309 Fill Us with Your Feast

Following this hymn, please go find a table and wait to be dismissed to the food line to share in the Pentecost Feast.

Themes and practices we have emphasized in these months of celebration and reflection:

- Small groups as central to our common life
- Decision-making by consensus
- Significant place of children in the congregation
- Welcoming and including queer people in who we are together
- Singing and dancing our lives and our prayers
- Earnestness, innovation, and humor