**The Gospel of Mark—Themes for Pentecost**

**Beginnings:**
Beginning of the good news...Salvation comes in the wilderness (1:1)

**In the Middle:**
The Kingdom of God is at Hand; Repent and Believe the Good news (1:14-15)
Call to Discipleship
Teaching in Parables
Healing
Rejection (Do you not understand?) 8:21

Passion: Messiah is one who suffers/serves
Follow - Take up the Cross

**Endings:**
Passion (Philippians 2:5-13 in narrative form)
Resurrection

**Urgency**

**Secrecy** (commands to silence; hiddenness of kingdom)

**Apocalyptic Community Waits** in the meantime of radical call to obedience

**Christology:** Jesus as the suffering servant

**For Pentecost: Jesus Ministry in Galilee**

**Discipleship** – struggling to understand and follow a faithful Messiah

**Kingdom is at Hand (1:14-15)**
Call of Disciples Follow Me(1, 3, 6)
Miraculous Healings
Teaching about the Kingdom (Parables)
Conflict
Rejection by his own people
Misunderstood by his disciples
Multiple crossings of sea (chaos) parallel the issue of fear and faith

**In Mark:**
This story constantly unfolds in mystery, hiddenness, surprise, in secrecy and irony (greatest is one who serves)
(cf. Master of Surprise, Donald Juel; Miracle of Mark Roy Harrisville)