THE GOSPEL OF MARK – THEMES FOR PENTECOST, PART 3

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

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

Focus and Themes For Pentecost 3

Continuing Focus by Fore-telling of Passion
Identity and Way of God’ Messiah
Son of Man came to serve and give life for the many

Discipleship modeled by this Call to Servanthood
Salvation and Reversal Belong Together
Jesus’ Kingdom Not of this world: Receive it with Humility of Children
Promise: With God All Things are Possible
The Great Commandment: Love God and Love the Neighbor
Following this Jesus on the Way to the Cross Calls for Healing and New Vision