Sermon Outline - Sun, Jun 6, 2021- PRIDE

<u>Overview:</u> Last month we began our exploration of Pentecost by looking mostly at the encounter between the Apostles and the Holy Spirit. We talked about how the Spirit moved to both comfort, disrupt and empower the apostles. This month we look at their response.

Story Exegesis -

- Jesus leaves them and tells them to wait on the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit shows up and shows out with a major display of power
- The folks around are confused by what is happening. They wonder if they are drunk
- Peter addresses them letting them know that God is moving and that what they are seeing is a fulfillment of Jesus teaching
- The Apostles go from having no idea what is next to a deep calling to share this Good News. God has shown up and Spirit has shown out they are clear that now they are called to respond

<u>**Key Points**</u> – When we look at the response of the folks that joined this crazy movement that became known as "The Way" we see 5 responses that remind us how we are called to respond to our own Pentecost moment. The acronym we will explore this month is PRIDE -

- Prayed and Praised
- Redistributed Resources
- Integrated Communities
- Dined Together
- Expanded the Circle

Prayer & Praise

- They came from many different backgrounds and cultures. Some had direct experience with Jesus, some had none. They spent time coming to a shared understanding of who God was, celebrating Jesus and praying to understand what they were called
- Trying to form themselves into a movement could not have been easy. They didn't exactly have a play book. The time they spent in pray and praise was about reminding themselves that even if they didn't know all the answers they felt the conviction.
- Their practice existed in a place beyond words, a place where they could come together as one body and experience God's power as a collective

Questions -

- 1. This story is about moving from God's intervention to our response. Where has God been intervening in your life how have you responded or been resistant to responding?
- 2. What practices of prayer or praise have been sustaining you and where do you feel led to try new practices? How might you share your practice with someone else?
- 3. As we prepare for our mid-year retreat Where are you praising God for how we are evolving? What prayers do you have for this community? How do you think we might be called to respond?