

## **Dear Families:**

Today is the first Sunday of 2023! We celebrate the beginning of the new calendar year by observing the Baptism of our Lord Sunday. When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, the world was changed forever. It set us on a path that was completely different than the one mankind was traveling. It reminds us of our own baptism, where our old selves die and a new one is created. Celebrate this rebirth with us today!

Today in Sunday School, we read another story of rebirth; the Creation Story. Just like us becoming one of God's children when we are baptized, God made something amazing out of nothing. The beauty of the universe, the amazing scientific principles, the life-giving features of our Earth- all were made by God out of nothing but a cold, lifeless void. All He did was speak, and bang- something new and beautiful. God was pleased with what He made; and as God's people we are entrusted to care for it all.

The Sunday School students would like to assist our family in Africa by holding a few fundraisers. So, beginning next week, we will resume our hot chocolate sales! For \$1, you can purchase a cup of gourmet hot chocolate, with all proceeds being donated to Literacy of Love. This is a popular activity; we hope you can join us.

Thank you for joining us today!

Carol McClellan, CE Director