

Greetings everyone!

Happy New Year, 2024! We hope and pray that the world will have less meanness and more kindness this year.

I want to start this week's message by reminding you that we are starting something new this Sunday, January 7. There will be a special coffee hour between the two services, hosted by the early service folks. We hope this will become an ongoing event on the first Sunday of each month, allowing attendees at both of our services to meet and mingle, and catch up with one another.

I am honored to be filling in for Pastor Tom as he fulfills a previous commitment this Sunday. As is customary we will be remembering the Baptism of Jesus on the Sunday after Epiphany (Jan. 6). We will also come together to share in our monthly Communion service. All are welcome at the table.

In my sermon reflection on Sunday, I will be focusing on Mark's account of the baptism of Jesus. The lectionary for this week pairs that story with the first few verses of Genesis 1, where the Spirit/Wind/Breath of God hovers over the primordial waters, and God calls creation forth, and pronounces it "Good!" Jesus's baptism, and our baptisms, mark new beginnings, new creations, and fresh starts in faith, hope, and caring love. May that be true for the LPPC community, and for each of us individually, as we move with God, Jesus, and the Spirit into this new year and our future together.

We hope to see you Sunday, either at 8:30 or 10:30. And, don't forget the coffee hour in between!

Blessings friends,

Ken Cuthbertson, Minister of the Word and Sacrament, Retired