

February 5, 2021

Dear Friends,

In his book titled *Ethics*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer notes that there are “last things” and there are “the things before the last.” It’s important to keep the two categories straight. We can be tempted to treat things that are passing by - “the things before the last” - as though they are ultimate.

**Sunday Online Worship Gathering at 10 a.m.**

The context for Sunday’s sermon is that the prophet Isaiah is trying to help Israel know that their situation, as captives in Babylon, is not ultimate. It is not the last thing for them. The people have trouble seeing it. It seems this is their end. Captivity. Captivity. Captivity. They ask the questions that suffering people ask: Can God change things? Why doesn’t he? Is it because he doesn’t want to? Is it because he can’t?

Isaiah has his work cut out for him. In this fifth Sunday of the season of [Epiphany](#) we will again pay attention for the revelation of God. As we realize who God is and encounter him, we will grow in confidence that “those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

Please [contact me](#) for a Zoom link to the online service.

For this week’s scripture readings and other announcements, go to [Sunday’s bulletin](#).

**Sunday School for grades 4-6 at 11:15 a.m.**

You may ‘send’ your child to Sunday School (grades 4-6) at 11:15 a.m. Please contact our [family pastor](#) for a Zoom link.

**Prayer Gathering: February 9 at 11:30 a.m.**

Please [email the prayer team](#) to let us know how we may pray for you this week.

With love and prayers,

Pastor Kerry Kronberg (with the whole team)