

Thought for the day – Monday 7th June 2021

By Revd John Marshall

new life Galliard 3

I would like to share a couple more of Fred Kaan's hymns, both of which are new to me. Maggie may well have sung them as a teenager.

Sing we of the modern city,
Scene alike of joy and stress;
Sing we of its nameless people
In their urban wilderness.
Into endless rows of houses
Life is set a million-fold,
Life expressed in human beings
Daily born and growing old.

In the city full of people
World of speed and hectic days;
In the ever changing setting
Of the latest trend and craze,
Christ is present, and among us,
In the crowd, we see him stand
In the bustle of the city
Jesus Christ is every man.

God is not remote in heaven
But on earth to share our shame;
Changing graph and mass and number,
Into persons with a name.
Christ has shown, beyond statistics,

Human life with glory crowned;
By his timeless presence proving:
People matter, people count!
Fred Kaan 1968 Galliard

We meet you, O Christ,
In many a guise;
Your image we see
In simple and wise.
You live in a palace,
Exist in a shack
We see you, the gardener,
A tree on your back.

In millions alive,
Away and abroad;
Involved in our life
You live down the road.
Imprisoned in systems
You long to be free.
We see you, Lord Jesus,
Still bearing your tree.

We hear you, O man,
In agony cry,
For freedom you march,
In riots you die.
Your face in the papers
We read and we see.

The tree must be planted
By human decree.

You choose to be made
At one with the earth;
The dark of the grave
Prepares for your birth,
Your death is your rising
Creative your word;
The tree springs to life
And our hope is restored.

Fred Kaan 1968 Galliard Ltd

It is interesting to note how up to date this hymn is.
Perhaps we can include the news in our prayers.