

Thought for the Day – Thursday 3rd June 2021

By Revd John Marshall

new life Galliard 2

I would like to share two hymns by Fred Kaan, Maggie remembers him as the pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church, in St Levan Road, Plymouth, part of the St Levan group of churches which Maggie's church, St Bartholomew's was part of. It was truly ecumenical in the 1960s and the young people would go to each others' churches.

Fred Kaan was an inspired hymn writer.

1 Now join we, to praise the creator

Our voices in worship and song;

We stand to recall with thanksgiving

That to him all seasons belong.

2 We thank you, O God, for your goodness,

For the joy and abundance of crops,

For food that is stored in our larders,

For all we can buy in the shops.

3 But also of need and starvation

We sing with concern and despair

Of skills that are used for destruction

Of land that is burnt and laid bare.

4 We cry for the plight of the hungry

While harvests are left on the field,

For orchards neglected and wasting,

For produce from markets withheld.

5 The song grows in depth and in wideness;
The earth and its people are one,
There can be no thanks without giving,
No words without deeds that are done.

6 Then teach us, O Lord of the harvest,
To be humble in all that we claim;
To share what we have with the nations,
To care for the world in your name.

Fred Kaan 1968 Galliard

God of concrete, God of steel,
God of piston and of wheel,
God of pylon and of steam,
God of girder and of beam,
God of atom. God of mine,
All the world of power is Thine!

Lord of cable, Lord of rail,
Lord of motorway and mail,
Lord of rocket, Lord of flight,
Lord of roaring satellite,
Lord of lightning's livid line,
All the world of speed is Thine!

Lord of science, Lord of art,
God of map and graph and chart,

Lord of physics and research,
Word of Bible, Faith of Church,
Lord of sequence and design,
All the world of truth is Thine!

God whose glory fills the earth
Gave the universe its birth
Loosed the Christ with Easter's might,
Save's the world from evil's blight;
Claims mankind by grace divine
All the world of love is Thine!