

**Immanuel Newsletter**  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Website: <http://www.immanuelurc.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC>

**Thought for the week:** Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are **Anger** and **Courage**. Anger at the way things are and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are. (Saint Augustine)

**Resuming worship at Immanuel:** after consulting with the members on their lists, Elders met through Zoom to consider the way forward. There were a few different responses on the matter, and the decision is to return to worship on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30**. This is the Sunday before Pentecost, allowing us all to prepare for the celebration of Pentecost. Of course, this decision is subject to no further changes on the “roadmap” set out by the Government and guidelines from the URC. It is also subject to having enough people to staff the services as needed. The use of masks and distancing is still to be complied with.

### **Election of Elders**

Elders have agreed a plan for election of Elders, taking into account that last year this did not happen, and Elders who had completed their term were asked to stay on, never imagining this would be for a whole year. The plan is as follows:

As from **April 1<sup>st</sup>**, list of eligible members list and nominations forms will be distributed by Elders to their pastoral list, in doing this they will arrange ways to pick up/forward the forms to the Church Secretary. **Nominations will close on 2<sup>nd</sup> May**, and the Church Secretary will produce a list of nominees, after which the Church Secretary and/or Minister will approach these Nominees to seek agreement on nomination. These names will be published in the Weekly Newsletter on two Sundays, and then on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May**, after the Service, we will hold a short church meeting where voting will take place, Only Church Members can vote, and votes will be those present and those who cannot come to church who have sent in their voting paper.

**Discussion Group:** Our next Zoom Discussion Group – “Reflecting on the Reflection”, will be next **Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00** for about 45 minutes. The link for the meeting can be found at the foot of the Reflection each week. Looking forward to seeing you and sharing thoughts, as we Reflect on the Reflection.

### **Please Include in your prayers:**

- That HOPE and LOVE may be the signs of our life...
- Violence in Yemen, Syria, Tigray, Myanmar
- Highworth URC
- For all those we know who are facing exceptionally difficult circumstances.
- For the vaccination in our country and the world.
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches
- The URC: nationally, the 13 Synods.
- The South Western Synod: Ruth the Moderator, Gwen the Synod Clerk, and all who work for the Synod Office, and the churches of the Synod.
- for the homeless, and rough sleepers
- For courage of faith to confront injustice, discrimination, hatred, racism.

Hymn for today

<p>God came in Jesus, human life sharing; gave his life for us, suffered and died; then, Resurrection! Death could not hold him' by love's perfection death was defied.</p> <p>Then as they waited, all of a sudden, strong and elated, freed of all cares; with no misgiving, joyful apostles new that his living Spirit was theirs.</p>	<p>So let us greet his coming among us; let us still meet his love with delight; through resurrection joyfully taking love's new direction, flooded with light.</p> <p>He will be coming, mighty and glorious, universe humming loud in acclaim; through resurrection, all of creation brought to perfection praising his name.</p>
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Alan Gaunt. Rejoice and Sing 237

Question: how can you relate this hymn to the Reflection for today?