

A song for the 'new normal'

- 1 Lord, the world has been turned upside down; ♦
an invisible enemy threatens our way of life.
- 2 So many have died, so many bereaved; ♦
so many afflicted and struggling to recover.
- 3 Our health services are straining at the seams; ♦
doctors and nurses traumatised and exhausted.
- 4 The economy is in tatters, with businesses in despair; ♦
unemployment rises and many fear for their jobs.
- 5 Elderly and vulnerable people have been cut off, alone; ♦
children deprived of learning and end-of-year affirmation.
- 6 Families and relationships have been under pressure; ♦
both stuck at home and kept apart from loved ones.
- 7 In a world of injustice and inequality, we are ashamed; ♦
that the most disadvantaged are the hardest hit.
- 8 Lift up the refugees, victims of war and street-children; ♦
may black lives matter to us as much as white lives.
- 9 Pour out your love on a broken world; ♦
heal the sick and comfort the hurting.
- 10 How long, O Lord, until the uncertainty ends? ♦
How long until we can meet and hug and sing again?
- 11 But you are with us, however long it takes; ♦
our shelter in the storm.

- 12 Confusion grows from mixed messages; ♦
but let us hold on to your Word.
- 13 Our nation eyes a return to normal by Christmas; ♦
seeking safety, not a saviour.
- 14 As the nights grow longer in the months ahead; ♦
shine through us, as lights in the darkness.
- 15 Give wisdom to our government and leaders; ♦
and renewed energy and resilience to our key workers.
- 16 Open our eyes, Lord, to see beyond ourselves; ♦
open our hearts to reach out and care for others.
- 17 Uncertainty and fear for the future is all around; ♦;
but I will trust in my living, loving God.
- 18 Even though I falter and stray and lose my way; ♦
with your outstretched arms, you have forgiven me.
- 19 Through your saving grace, you make it personal; ♦
you protect me and you equip me, so I will not be afraid.
- 20 Lord, your crown is mightier than the Coronavirus; ♦
make your message of love and peace spread far and wide.
- 21 Let our heads not drop because of Covid-19; ♦
let our eyes not lose sight of you.
- 22 But keep us focussed on your promises of hope; ♦
and give us your 2020 vision.

A Psalm of Timothy

July 2020