

## Approaching the journey towards your resumption of church life



### Let this mind be in you

In Philippians chapter 2 verses 1-11 Paul sets out God's vision for a unity church community. Right at the centre of the passage we have the well-known verse, 'Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus'. It's a reminder that our attitude of heart and mind determines and directs how we act and react in the real circumstances of our lives.

As we approach our congregation's journey towards resumption of a fuller and fresh expression of church life, we need to do so with prayerfully prepared hearts tuned to the mind of Christ and refined in his image.

### Be flexible

One of the things we have learned about ourselves as churches during the pandemic is that we are more flexible and able to adjust than we thought. We have had to be. Necessity has become the mother of invention. That flexibility is going to be an important quality to bring with us because we should anticipate that progress up ahead may be haphazard, with unexpected gains to be gratefully celebrated, but also likely changes of pace, maybe even pauses, on the journey.

Retaining flexibility and restraining frustration will help us negotiate the next few months with the patience and perseverance we need to keep moving forward.

### Prayer

All knowing God,  
you know the future better than we can even remember the past;  
you are never caught out by anything that happens;  
your plans are never thrown off course;  
you rule and overrule for your glory and our good.  
We like to think we are in control like that,  
but the pandemic has shown us that our best laid plans are frail, faltering  
and fallible.  
So build in us a flexibility as we go forward.  
Help us to adjust to changing circumstances,  
navigate obstacles,  
rise to challenges,  
seize opportunities,  
all in your strength,  
and by your power at work in us and through us.  
In Jesus name.  
Amen.