Staying at home to work has meant I’ve seen things happening outside that I’d normally miss. For instance, a blackbird searching for sticks. Once he’s filled his beak with dead twigs, he flies off before returning a short time later for some more.

This led me to reflect on how things from the past, though seemingly ‘of a time’ can sometimes find a new and different purpose in the here and now. In the blackbird’s case, creating an environment in which new life will hopefully flourish.

These words from the prophet Isaiah foretell of both Jesus’s resurrection and our own;

“But your dead will live, Lord; their bodies will rise – let those who dwell in the dust wake up and shout for joy – your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead.”

Isaiah 26:19

All of our lives have been changed by the extraordinary events of this past month. Some of the things we did, and the ways we did them, may even been permanently consigned to history. But there will also, no doubt, be things from the past that we will pick up again, just like my blackbird has been doing. So, I wonder,

What will your ‘dead twigs’ be?

How might we ‘resurrect’ them and for what purpose?

Which twigs might you choose to leave on the ground?

“But your dead will live, Lord; their bodies will rise – let those who dwell in the dust wake up and shout for joy – your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead.”

Isaiah 26: 19

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards’

Soren Kierkegaard.