



Ritual

THE CROSSING

Carmel Bracken, Northern Province

Centrepiece:

Create something that represents crossings in our lives. It might be images of crossings, images of refugees making dangerous journeys, images of roads, boats or it might be artefacts representing some of these things.

What is speaking to you from this Centrepiece?

Leader:

Our opening song, *The Crossing* is sung by Sean Keane and written by the late Johnny Clegg. The metaphor of *crossings* has many meanings in the song, including the crossing from an old divided South Africa into a unified one, one filled with hope. The song speaks of resilience under fire as one makes one's crossing, whatever that crossing might be. May the music awaken for us the resilience required for this time of crossing, the greatest crossing that may ever have been asked of us as a human species.

The Crossing - Sean Keane

To play the song, please [click here](#).

Through all the days that eat away
At every breath that I take
Through all the nights I've lain alone
In someone else's dream, awake
All the words in truth we have spoken
That the wind has blown away
It's only you that remains with me
Clear as the light of day

O Siyeza, o siyeza, sizofika webaba noma
(We are coming, we are coming, we will arrive soon)
O siyeza, o siyeza, siyagudle lomhlaba
(We are coming, we are coming, we are moving across this earth)
Siyawela lapheshaya lulezontaba ezimnyama
(We are crossing over those dark mountains)
Lapha sobheka phansi konke ukhulupheka
(Where we will lay down our troubles)

A punch drunk man in a downtown bar
Takes a beating without making a sound
Through swollen eyes he sways and smiles
'Cause no one can put him down

Inside of him a boy looks up to his father
For a sign or an approving eye
Oh, it's funny how those once so close and now gone
Can still so affect our lives

O Siyeza, o siyeza, sizofika webaba noma
(We are coming, we are coming, we will arrive soon)
O siyeza, o siyeza, siyagudle lomhlaba
(We are coming, we are coming, we are moving across this earth)
Siyawela lapheshaya lulezontaba ezimnyama
(We are crossing over those dark mountains)
Lapha sobheka phansi konke ukhulupheka
(Where we will lay down our troubles)

Take me now, hold me close
Don't let go, I'm coming home

O Siyeza, o siyeza, sizofika webaba noma
(We are coming, we are coming, we will arrive soon)
O siyeza, o siyeza, siyagudle lomhlaba
(We are coming, we are coming, we are moving across this earth)
Siyawela lapheshaya lulezontaba ezimnyama
(We are crossing over those dark mountains)
Lapha sobheka phansi konke ukhulupheka
(Where we will lay down our troubles)

Optional Hymn

In the Quiet - Liam Lawton lyrics

When leaves
and the branch is bare,
winter is calling and chills the silent air.
When the moon is covered,
the shadows of the night,
Know that I am waiting to call you to the quiet.

CHORUS:

Be still oh be still, for I am your God,
be still now and listen and you will hear my word.
be still oh be still, deep within your life,
for you will find me,
In the quiet.

When storms are hurting,
and they don't know why.
When hearts are broken,
children have to cry.
When prayers are spoken,
late into the night,
you will find your answer,
if you come into the quiet.

Chorus

Leader:

We too live at a time of crossing, where we would also like to lay down our troubles. COVID-19 has brought this into clearer focus. Unlike recent tsunamis, fires, floods which happened in specific locations, this current crisis is being felt everywhere by everyone, though felt with more intensity by some. In sharing our common crisis may we be aware of the deeper common call to co-create a world that works for all of life. This crossing will determine our future as a human species. As we inch our way forward during these uncertain times may we realise that evolution is always happening and that conscious evolution involves awareness of the greater Story in which we are all interconnected.

You are invited to share the prayer that is in your heart at this Crossing time in human history.

Response to each prayer: *Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on us*

Closing Prayer:

Divine spirit, may we open to your evolutionary grace that will help us navigate this threshold time with resilience, imagination and above all love,.

Divine Spirit, may we support each other along the journey with a greater awareness of the interconnectedness of all of life.

Divine Spirit, may we grow in awareness of what it really means to be truly collaborative, valuing diversity and appreciating our place in the web of life.

Divine Spirit, in difficult and anxious times, may we never lose hope that humanity can evolve into a better way and may we open ourselves to the gift of celebration, fun and play.

Optional Closing Movement:

Leadership dance from Capacitar. To watch the video, please [click here](#).

