

Other Side Anne Murray

Through each life time - run rivers to cross
What if there's no life line and you're sinking or lost
Just believe in your direction
Let your heart explore
'Cause you can't reach new horizons
Standing on the shore

There are mountains - we need to climb
But the mountains standing in our way are only in our minds
And the risk of going nowhere
Is the greatest risk of all
So just listen to the voice that says
I'll catch you if you fall

*On the other side of doubt is faith
On the other side of pain lies strength
The journey may seem endless
When You know the road is rough
But on the other side of fear... is love*

For such a long time I put my dreams aside
The tides of change felt dangerous
The mountains seemed too high
But my dreams were slowly fading
As time went quickly by
So I took a breath with every step
Never knowing I would find..

Prayer Leader:
Betsy Nero
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Crossing Into the Unknown



Our prayer is characterized by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.

God is present in all our lives.

God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.

Renew · Refresh · Refocus

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To Ponder: John O'Donohue

At any time you can ask yourself: At which threshold am I now standing? At this time in my life, what am I leaving? Where am I about to enter? What is preventing me from crossing my next threshold? What gift would enable me to do it?

It is wise in your own life to be able to recognize and acknowledge the key thresholds; to take your time; to feel all the varieties of presence that accrue there; to listen inward with complete attention until you hear the inner voice calling you forward. The time has come to cross.

To acknowledge and cross a new threshold is always a challenge. It demands courage and also a sense of trust in whatever is emerging. This becomes essential when a threshold opens suddenly in front of you, one for which you had no preparation.

Because we are so engaged with the world, we usually forget how fragile life can be and how vulnerable we always are. It takes only a couple of seconds for a life to change irreversibly. Suddenly you stand on completely strange ground and a new course of life has to be embraced. Especially at such times we desperately need blessing and protection.

Though we know one another's names and recognize one another's faces, we never know what destiny shapes each life. The script of individual destiny is secret; it is hidden behind and beneath the sequence of happenings that is continually unfolding for us. Each life is a mystery. That we are here is a huge affirmation; somehow life needed us and wanted us to be. To sense and trust this primeval acceptance can open a vast spring of trust within the heart. It can free us into a natural courage that casts out fear and opens up our lives to become voyages of discovery, creativity, and compassion. No threshold need be a threat, but rather an invitation and a promise.

Whatever comes, the great sacrament of life will remain faithful to us, blessing us always with visible signs of invisible grace. We merely need to trust.

Reading: Joyce Rupp *Crossing Over*

Crossing over into the unknown,
crossing over from a secure land
to one whose roads I have never walked.

Companion and Guide,
you are my transition coach.

You say to me: "Cross over the bridge.
Go ahead, come on over. It's sturdy enough.

Don't look down, though, or you might get terrified
and never walk across.

Don't look back too long or you will lose courage
and want to stay right where you are.

Hang on. Keep going.
That's what bridges are for, to get you to the other side.
Trust me to protect you."

For all of us in transition who have bridges to cross,
bless us, God of the journey,
gift us with the desire to go ahead.

Help us to trust that the bridge will be strong
and the risk will be worth it.

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...