**Welcome to Country**

***C. 2012 Norman Habel***

***Melody: Morning has Broken***

Welcome to country! Country is calling,

Calling from scrub and watering hole:

Sense now the sacred spirit of country,

Stirring the silence deep in your soul.

Country is calling. Know in your spirit,

Land is alive and blessed you at birth.

Celebrate now the song of your mother:

You are a precious child born of Earth.

Country is crying, crying in anguish!

Landscapes and lizards feeling the pain.

Forests destroyed and rivers polluted,

When will you care for country again?

Country is calling, stirring your dreaming,

Songs that our primal ancestors sang.

Spinning through time and all of creation,

Dreaming returns with God’s boomerang.

Welcome to country! Christ at the centre

Calling for healing, holds out his hand:

Reconciled true each brother and sister,

Come now and heal our mother, the land.