



Theme artwork by
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Lent at Lakeside:
My Heart as Sanctuary
My Life as Prayer
Devotion for Friday,
February 23, 2018

Where I'm From
By Jody Wright

I am from six hundred square feet
on a dead end road surrounded by cotton,
filled with laughter and love, long summer nights, and snowy walks.

I am from a castle on a hill wrapped in woods and water,
a Southern mill town that wanted to be bigger than it was
and was sometimes smaller than it should have been.

I am from pool-washed summers and snow-sled winters,
from the heart is where home is
to home is where the heart is.

I am from Jean and Frank,
from grandmothers who loved with food and words,
from quiet grandfathers who breathed integrity and character.

I am from Baptist-style believers
who loved me into faith,
who had faith in my love,
who taught me to hear the call-in-the-crowd,
and to trust the voice in my heart.

I am from birthdays that tasted like lemon meringue pie
and freedom bounded by responsibility,
from family values and small town be-attitudes:

Be good,
Be kind,
Be nice,
Be honest,
Be prepared,
Be on time.

I am from my wife who loves me no matter what,
from my children who taught me how much love matters,
and from my granddaughters who matter because they love so purely.

I am from the people who have touched my life with a finger, a hand, or a hug
and left an impression far deeper than my skin.

John 10:10b

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Prayer:

Gracious God, we would be pure of heart, healthy in body, and sound in mind, but we are human and cannot be whole apart from your mercy. Grant us your grace and be our vision for all of life, but especially for this day. Open our eyes to your presence in our world. Open our ears to the song of your love. Open our minds to the truths of your Gospel. And open our hearts to the wonder of your grace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.