



# *Leaning into the Heart of the Holy*

*2016 Lenten Devotions*

Monday

March 14, 2016

## *A Hymn*

**By Paul Laurence Dunbar**

Lead gently, Lord, and slow,  
For oh, my steps are weak,  
And ever as I go,  
Some soothing sentence speak;

That I may turn my face  
Through doubt's obscurity  
Toward thine abiding-place,  
E'en tho' I cannot see.

For lo, the way is dark;  
Through mist and cloud I grope,  
Save for that fitful spark,  
The little flame of hope.

Lead gently, Lord, and slow,  
For fear that I may fall;  
I know not where to go  
Unless I hear thy call.

My fainting soul doth yearn  
For thy green hills afar;  
So let thy mercy burn--  
My greater, guiding star!

## **Prayer:**

My loving Lord,  
it's so hard to love the world sometimes  
and to love it the way Jesus did seems impossible.  
Help me to be inspired by his love and  
guided by his example.  
Most of all, I want to accept that I can't do it alone,  
and that trying is an arrogance of self-centeredness.  
I need you, dear God, to give me support in this journey.  
Show me how to unlock my heart  
so that I am less selfish.  
Let me be less fearful of the pain and darkness  
that will be transformed by you into Easter joy.

(From *Praying Lent: An Online Ministry of Creighton University*)

## **Psalm 20**

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!  
The name of the God of Jacob protect you!  
May he send you help from the sanctuary,  
and give you support from Zion.  
May he remember all your offerings,  
and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices.

May he grant you your heart's desire,  
and fulfil all your plans.  
May we shout for joy over your victory,  
and in the name of our God set up our banners.  
May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.

Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed;  
he will answer him from his holy heaven  
with mighty victories by his right hand.  
Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,  
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.  
They will collapse and fall,  
but we shall rise and stand upright.

Give victory to the king, O Lord;  
answer us when we call.