



Theme artwork by
LaCount Anderson

Lent at Lakeside:
My Heart as Sanctuary
My Life as Prayer
Devotion for Monday,
March 19, 2018

Where I'm From
By Dianne Bulluck

I am from family:

Large and noisy,
Laughter, closeness, humor, rivalry, love
Gatherings, no real reasons, just for the mere joy of togetherness.
Sunday after church "Up to the country" to visit both sets of Grandparents and
other cousins, Aunts and Uncles.

I am from music:

The heart and soul of our family. Mama plays everything by ear. Perfect pitch.
Singing in the car as small children. Mama taught us so many songs with
harmonies before we could even write. Although quiet and timid, she is
the truly gifted one.

Music for as long as I can recall with both Grandmothers so incredibly talented.
Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Sisters, Brothers, Parents, filled with God's gift
Singing, playing, some professionally trained, most untrained but simply
natural talents.

Pianos, trombones, clarinets, saxophones, flutes, piccolos, trumpets, banjos,
drums, ukuleles, bass, tambourines; any instrument to play for pleasure!

The epicenter of our gatherings, the treasure of our togetherness
Nurtured, encouraged, music was a way of life.

I am from positive attitude:

Exemplified by my parents. Wittiness is Daddy's strength.

Illness, finances, troubles, all treated as a part of life which not to agonize.

Simply accept, implement a plan, deal and move forward.

A smile, lots of humor, and a bright outlook always governed.

I am from perseverance:

Many struggles related to bad choices, some just bad luck.

Survival is the choice taught and the verdict made.

Carry on, chin up, there's further life to be lived.

I am from faith:

Faith that doesn't falter or fade

Faith that has been all I've had to keep afloat

Faith that IS my rock.

I am from church:

Lakeside Baptist Church

Nearly 58 years, it's all I've really known

My security blanket, my source of comfort, wisdom, friendship, guidance.

My feeling of Love.

My place to praise God through song, singing, and music.

I am from Lakeside.

I am Lakeside.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah*

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;

he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

Psalm 147: 1, 7

Praise the Lord!
How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.

Psalm 68:4

Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—
his name is the Lord—be exultant before him.

Prayer

By Ted Loder

Lord, I have so few ways to pray,
but you have so many ways to answer.
Keep me alert
to your unpredictable answers,
to your unexplained surprises,
and by your grace,
make me one of those surprises,
for the sake of the One
who taught us the surprises
of moving mountains,
healing touches, wondrous stories,
great banquets, first suppers,
broken bread, crosses,
and resurrections.

From *Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle*. Augsburg: Minneapolis, 1981.