



Theme artwork by
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Lent at Lakeside:
My Heart as Sanctuary
My Life as Prayer
Devotion for Saturday,
March 24, 2018

Where I'm From
By Erin McAuliffe

You don't want to go where I come from.
Fear, depression and hurt lurk about,
Waiting to devour their next victim.
Chains cover every inch of my body.
Sin so heavy I cannot move.

Where I come from is just a room full of
Broken promises, heartbreaks, and mistakes.
There's no escaping the shame and regret.
There's no hope for tomorrow.
Where I come from, you slowly drown in your own thoughts of what if's and if only's.

Where I come from it takes a little of this, a lot of that...
A lot more of that... to cover the pain, to hide from anyone, anything...everything.
Where I come from, there's no escaping.
Forever alone, crying out with no one to hear, no one to help.
Where I come from, taking your life is the only way out.

Oh no, no, that's not where I'm from; that's where I was.
Caught in a trap of lies, but that's not where I'm from or where I'm going.
See, I once was blind but now I see.
The world's not a dark place with just poor, pitiful me.

Where I come from, there's a light so bright
It covers any clouds of fear and leaves nothing but happiness in sight.
Where I come from, it doesn't matter who you are or what you've done.
Everyone's welcome, everyone's loved, no one is judged.

Where I come from, the ultimate price was paid.
And as for me, I'm no longer afraid.
Mercy has saved my soul
And freedom is all that I know.

Where I come from, I've been born again.
My sin and shame have been outweighed.
My innocence has been restored.
Where I come from, I have a hope and a future.

Where I come from, I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it,
But His love is the air I'm breathing.
Where I come from, I'm not who I used to be,
I am redeemed.

Where I come from, I'm home in my Father's arms.
I am not my mistakes,
I am a child of God.
Oh, how I'd love for you to come to where I come from.

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as wool."

Psalms 91:15-16

"Because he has set his love upon me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

II Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Prayer

Holy God, we confess that we have not lived for your glory.

You claim us as beloved children, but we do not honor your name.

You call us to paths of righteousness, but we fail to follow your way.

Forgive us, God of grace.

Break down the walls that divide us from you and from one another,
and build us up into a holy temple; through Jesus Christ our Lord.