



Theme artwork by  
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**Lent at Lakeside:  
My Heart as Sanctuary  
My Life as Prayer  
Devotion for Thursday,  
February 22, 2018**

**Where I'm From  
By Anna Anderson**

I am from the middle of nowhere,  
yet the center of my everywhere.

I am from front yard football with my brother's friends.

I am from country living where  
burning tobacco was my first job.

I am from picnics and celebrations at our big country house.

I am from sisters who shared their things  
and shared their hearts.

I am from loving parents -  
those who always worked hard and long and  
never gave up and loved me  
as if I, out of 4, was their favorite

I am from the church that centered my life  
and my weekly plans.

I am from those who nurtured me  
and helped me grow -  
neighbors, church friends, teachers.

I am from the school of just a few,  
but proud and loyal and supportive and close-knit.

I am from the piano lessons of music  
that inspired me and took me on to my college in the mountains.

I am from adventures in different places  
of work and life and growth  
and learning and becoming and shaping.

I am from journeys to foreign fields in Africa  
where my calling was affirmed and challenged and redefined.

I am from love and welcome  
and acceptance and abiding joy  
in the midst of uncertainty and loss  
and disappointment and heartbreak . . .  
but love above all.

### **Matthew 4:1-11**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**Prayer:**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father.  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;  
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided.  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!  
– By Thomas O. Chisholm