



Theme artwork by  
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**Lent at Lakeside:  
My Heart as Sanctuary  
My Life as Prayer  
Devotion for Tuesday,  
February 20, 2018**

**Where I'm From  
By Deborah Wright**

I am from a fork in the road  
that led to my grandparents' farmhouse,  
where I was greeted with wrap-around  
hugs and Hershey kisses.

I am from a blue bowl for biscuit making  
and a blue pickup truck for rides  
imagined and real,  
from an old Singer sewing machine  
and Grandma's schoolbooks for child's play,  
from Whip-poor-wills and starry nights  
and farm-to-table family meals.

I am from wooden pews and hand-held fans,  
and family faith rooted in Allen's Chapel.

I am from Sam and amazing Grace,  
the middle of three girls,  
from small-town South Carolina,  
a Snow Cap at one end and a Pink Dipper at the other,  
from a neighborhood of kickball games and lightning bugs  
and ice cream trucks at suppertime,  
from treks up Hammond's Hill  
and bike rides down with no hands.

I am from church and pot roast on Sunday,  
from an Old Rugged Cross faith  
sung by three sisters with Grace at the piano.

I am from sudden loss and  
all things work together  
for good  
to those who love God,  
from my mother's courage,  
her quiet faith and abiding love.

I am from listening for God's voice  
and beginning to find my own,  
from tugs at heartstrings  
and longings too strong for timidity.  
I am from an African journey . . .  
giraffes and mosquito nets  
and baobab trees with root-like branches  
reaching up to the sky,  
a metaphor for my own faith,  
a faith that recognizes  
life as prayer and heart as home.

## **Blessing:**

By Jan Richardson

Blessed be the people we carry in  
our blood.  
Blessed be the places we carry in  
our bones.  
May our living make a way for those  
who come after:  
a path of blessing, a path of beauty.

## **Romans 8:26-28, 38-39**

In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.