



Theme artwork by
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Lent at Lakeside:
My Heart as Sanctuary
My Life as Prayer
Devotion for
Tuesday of Holy Week,
March 27, 2018

Where I'm From
By Ann Winstead

I come from a semi-pro baseball player and a devoted mom.

I come from two sisters and a brother all younger than me.

I come from a home that was loving and caring, but discipline was not overlooked.

I come from grandparents who oversaw the tobacco fields while running a dairy farm
where milk was bottled and delivered to your back door fresh every morning.

I come from that same dairy pasture where I learned to drive a car.

I come from a family with many aunts, uncles and cousins.

I come from a place where the driveway is lined with pecan trees and stops right at the
front door of Mamie and Daddy Buck's house where the smell of teacakes
cooking drifts into the barnyard.

I come from a restaurant that fed thousands of people. During tobacco season they
would line up out the door waiting for BBQ and that delicious fried chicken
that only Willie could fry just right.

I come from many more memories including this church and its members that give
me strength and encouragement.

I come from Lakeside where I grew up loving Jesus through Sunday School, GA's, and
BTU on Sunday night.

I come from many things—some good and some not so good.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Prayer

Where do we find ourselves in this Holy Week, O God?
If we have something you need,
will we offer it when the stranger approaches?
If we have a space that can be turned to sacred use,
will we welcome the request
without signing papers to protect our interests?
If your time is near today, will we be able to be found
in the city,
in the workplace,
among the family,
in the crowd,
in the silence?

Will we be available to love you and welcome you
as your story is told anew this Holy Week?

Will we stand just out of view,
unnamed and unknown except to you,
and do our part today?

Who or what will get our attention?

The calendar that calls this week Holy?

A phone call or an email from someone hurting?

A news story about kidnappings in Nigeria
or ongoing needs in Puerto Rico
or violence in our own city streets?

A prompting to just stop and enter the silence?

What or who will get our attention today?

Awaken us from our slumber, O God.

Open our eyes to the needs around us.

Fill us with a spirit of discernment,
compassion, and generosity,

That in this Holy Week, and every day of our lives,

We might find ourselves in your story,

We might find our lives in you. Amen.

From <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/prayers-for-the-days-of-holy-week>, *adapted*