

## Lenten Prayer – Week One

Catch me in anxious hurrying, Lord,  
and hold me in this Lenten season

Hold my feet to the fire of your grace  
and help me pay attention to my own mortality  
that I may begin to die now  
to those things that keep me  
from living with you  
and with my neighbors on this earth  
to grudges and indifference  
to certainties that smother possibilities  
to my fascination with false securities  
to my addiction to sweatless dreams  
to my absolute insistence on how *it* has to be  
to my debilitating fear of dying some day  
which eats away at the wonder of fully living today  
and the adventure of losing my life in you...

Grant me the courage to step into that sacred space  
of remembering why you came  
and with it may something fresh be birthed in me  
a renewed gladness of heart  
a pitch for the song in the storm  
a word of praise to be lived  
a gratitude readily shared  
a rugged cross dared  
an unspeakable joy received

For the sake of Jesus Christ

## Lenten Prayer – Week Two

Catch me in my anxious hurrying, Lord,  
and hold me in this Lenten season.

Hold my heart to the beat of your grace  
and create in me a resting place  
a kneeling place  
a tip-toe place  
where I can recover from my own grand sense of self-importance  
which fills my mind and calendar with meaningless busyness  
that I may become vulnerable enough  
to dare intimacy with what is all too often familiar  
to listen with my hand at my ear for your summons  
to watch squint-eyed for your not-so-obvious presence  
in the crying of a child  
in the hunger on the streets  
in the fear on the faces of those who are lost  
even in the rage of those oppressed because of sex or race  
in the unsightly pictures of those suffering around the globe  
in the weakness of the poor and ghetto-strangled masses  
in my own lonely doubt and limping ambivalence.

And somehow  
during the season of sacrifice  
enable me to sacrifice time  
and possessions  
and securities

To do something...  
something about what I hear  
something about what I see  
something that my heart yearns to do  
but where fear often stifles my steps

For the sake of Jesus Christ

### **Lenten Prayer – Week Three**

Catch me in my anxious hurrying, Lord,  
and hold me in this Lenten season.

Hold my spirit to be a beacon of your peace  
with light enough to walk boldly  
to feel passionately  
to love aggressively

Stir my desire enough to want more  
to work for more  
and to submit to nothing less  
and to fear nothing less... than you  
only you!

I do not ask for becalmed seas  
slack sails and premature victories  
rather breathe in me a torment  
storm enough to make within myself  
and from myself,  
something...

Something new  
something daring  
something true

Turning the water of my words  
into the wine of will and risk  
into the bread of blood and blisters  
into the blessedness of “well done”  
of a cross picked up  
and a savior followed.

For the sake of Jesus Christ