

## Lent

*Rend your heart and not your garments.* Joel 2:13

How easy we may find it to  
Display a righteous air,  
Revealing only to a few  
What we must really bear.

We know that God looks on the heart  
And sees us with no veil;  
God calls on us to do our part  
As we through life may sail.

Whatever storms we may have weathered,  
Whatever tempts us so,  
We are not to our past sins tethered;  
Our faith can bloom and grow.

But first, we must be honest, and  
We must confess our sins;  
We must so humbly understand  
Forgiveness there begins.

What burdens on your heart might prey?  
What secrets should you purge?  
What negative emotions may  
Become a curse and scourge?

Confession and repentance can  
Provide that needed healing.  
Before we can be cleansed and stand,  
Begin with prayerful kneeling.

No outward show of vain remorse,  
But inner honest sorrow  
For what we've done throughout life's course  
So that we find tomorrow.

No garments rent, but hearts sincere  
In open honest prayer.  
We must begin Lent's journey here;  
For Easter let's prepare.

