Moments of Beauty
Week 9 – Cathedrals and Places of Worship

Friday, November 6

Oxford University, England. Photo Credit: Larry Brown
Wesley's New Room, Bristol England. Photo Credit: Kathy Perry

But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul. When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath. Deuteronomy 4:29-31

These photos are from two different places of learning associated with John Wesley, founder of Methodism. The first is Oxford University where John and his brother Charles were educated. They eventually became Anglican priests. The second is the pulpit in The New Room where Wesley taught preachers and leaders of his society. So learning is part of our task as Christians…learning about God, what God is like, and how scripture inspires us to live. And these often occur in beautiful places like these. But it was when John Wesley "felt his heart strangely warmed" that his intellectual understanding of God took on a more personal heart-felt relationship with God. And he lived the rest of his life in the both/and understanding of faith…both intellectual understanding and spiritual formation. What have you learned about God in your lifetime? How as the Spirit formed you? Thank God for those realizations today.