

LOCC SUMMER HYMN SING – 2017

- Sunday, August 13 -



1 Je - sus loves me, this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
3 Je - sus loves me, this I know, as he loved so long a - go,



Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.
tak - ing chil - dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul was written by Charles Wesley (1707-1788) shortly after his conversion in 1738. Some believe that it is based on the Wisdom of Solomon 11:26, (Apocrypha) "You spare all for they are yours, O Lord the lover of souls." It was Charles' use of the words "lover" and "bosom" that persuaded his brother John to NOT include this stanza in any collection of hymns until the 1797 edition, 8 years after Charles' death. The text had particular meaning to slaves who without names, parents, or status, could claim Jesus as their provider, parent, and safe haven through the storms of life. The tune, ABERYSTWYTH was composed by the Welsh writer, Joseph Parry (1841-1903) and is named for the city in North Wales where he was professor of music. It is the most widely used of all Welsh tunes. Joseph was born into poverty and began cleaning furnaces when he was 10. He received his first music lessons from other iron workers. He won a composition prize in 1860 and went on to write the first Welsh opera, two oratorios, several cantatas and over 400 hymn tunes; making him the most influential Welsh composer of the 20th century.

Louise Rowe Mayhew, daughter of the author, in a 1955 letter wrote the following, "The hands of Howard E. Smith, a long time church organist in Connecticut and friend of my father, was a little man, whose hands were so knotted with arthritis that one would wonder how he could use them at all, much less play the piano, but he could and did. I can see them now; my father striding up and down humming a bar or two and Howard playing it and jotting it down. Thus was *Love Lifted Me* composed. England born author, James Rowe, (1865-1933) came to the U.S. and settled in New York. Following years as an employee of the railroad, he began devoting his life to literary pursuits, writing song texts and serving as editor at several major music companies. During the last years of his life he became quite a successful writer of serious and humorous verse for greeting card publishers.

Anna B. Warner's (1820-1950) hymn was included in a novel by her sister, *Say and Seal*, in 1860. At one point in the story an ill little boy is comforted by his Sunday School teacher. He rocks the child in his arms, and when the boy asks him to sing, the teacher begins singing a new song. The stanzas of *Jesus Loves Me* are included in the novel. Having conducted Sunday School classes for the cadets at West Point for decades, the sisters willed their home, *Wood Crag*, to the academy. It is now a national shrine. William Bradbury (1816-1868) composed the tune for this text. It is Bradbury that added the refrain.

Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly,
Oth - er ref - uge have I none; hangs my help - less soul on thee;

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high;
leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me.

hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;

safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!
cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.

1. I was sin - king deep in sin, far from the peace - ful shore, — Ve - ry dee - ply
2. All my heart to Him I give, e - ver to Him I'll cling, — In His bles - sed

stained with - in, sin - king to rise no more; — But the Mas - ter of the sea
pre - sence live, e - ver His prai - ses sing. — Love so migh - ty and so true

heard my des - pair - ing cry, — From the wa - ters lif - ted me, now safe am I.
me - rits my soul's best songs; — Faith - ful lo - ving ser - vice, too, to Him be - longs.

Love lif - ted me! — Love lif - ted me! — When noth - ing
c - ven me! c - ven me!

1. else could help, Love lif - ted me. 2. Love lift - ed me.