

Confession Response/WE ARE FORGIVEN





### **Hymn Tidbits**

#### (Researched by Dr. Joan Buhlmann)

# #477 - "Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

This hymn (1744) is by Charles Wesley (1707-1788), youngest son and 18th child of Samuel and Susanna Wesley. He is said to have written no less than 6500 hymns. His feelings on every occasion of importance, whether public or private, found their best expression in a hymn. Scripture refs: st. 1: Deut. 32:3, Ps. 148:13, Ps. 145:11-13; st. 3 Rev. 5:12-14, Rev. 7:10. The year this text was written, 1744, was a year of political and religious turmoil in Britain. The newly formed Methodist societies were suspected of being merely disguised Roman Catholic societies and were accused of attempting to overthrow the Crown. To strengthen and reassure his Methodist followers, Charles Wesley anonymously published Hymns for Times of Trouble and Persecution. The tune Lyons, named for the French city Lyons, appeared with a reference to "Haydn" in Vol. 2 of William Gardner's sacred Melodies. Recent research proved that Joseph Martin Kraus (1756 Germany-1792 Stockholm) was the composer. In Stockholm he became the conductor of the court orchestra and eventually the best-known composer associated with the court of Gustavus III. Haydn, whom Kraus met, considered him "one of the greatest geniuses I have met." Kraus also wrote operas and many vocal and instrumental works.

## #737 In Glory to God - "Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song is composed by the Little Sisters of Jesus, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, originally in French. The translator is Stephen Somerville (1970).

This text reflects the ministry of a Roman Catholic religious community, The Little Sisters of Jesus, who work with people on the margins of society. This hymn is also beloved by the Ark communities who minister to adults with disabilities. This beloved hymn is perfect for Sundays about journeying, traveling, meeting the needs of others, and sharing the Gospel Scripture refs: Acts 2:38-4I; Romans 15:5-6; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 4:3-6; Col. 3:12-17; James 3:1-12.

## #343 - "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

This hymn (1981) is by Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008). Her parents were Presbyterian missionaries in China where she was born. In 1929 they moved to Hanover IN when Jane's father became President of Hanover College. Jane attended Northfield School for Girls, then 3 years at Wellesley College. She returned to Hanover and graduated from Hanover College. She and her pastor husband served in Noblesville IN, then in Indianapolis. She served on the Presbyterian General Assembly Council and on the Committee for a New Hymnal. She published "A Singing Faith." The tune "Beecher" by John Zundel was first published in his Christian Heart Songs (1870) as a setting for Charles Wesley's "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling."