

*Precious Pilgrim,*

*"Come Thou Long Expected, Jesus, Born to Set Thy People Free!" Yea! I'm at the lake again and when I woke up 15 minutes ago, that was the song in my heart. I'm curled up on the sofa with a down comforter, drinking Swiss Mocha - what you know what again!*

*It's different watching the sunrise on the first floor than on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The Lord's glorious sunrise - is that - it's again glorious - but my perspective has changed! I'm not sitting with my head in the clouds, feeling like I'm soaring with the birds, but on ground level, I can almost touch the steel gray lake - it's flowing so fast, about as fast as I feel that I've been doing the last week - not even aware of the daily sunrises. There are little puffs of vapor dancing here and there over the water and then evaporating. It's really as beautiful as the golden sky that's taking place, in a cold, austere, gray type of way. Gosh, that sounds like "Doom and Gloom!"*

*Guess what just happened? It has risen! It's up! And guess what's happening to the water? It's shining with pink reflections - beautiful! For me the water represents us and our fast-paced world; the dancing mist = Holy Spirit; the glorious sun = our Heavenly Father, and thanks be to the Dear Lord - Jesus walked on water! He knows our world and its pressures. He has empathy and understanding. He's been here - and He's coming again!*

*John 6:17b: "It had become dark and Jesus had not yet come to them, and the sea began to be stirred up because a strong wind was blowing. When therefore, they had rowed about three or four miles, they beheld Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat, and they were frightened. But He said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."*

*Can you relate? Have you been rowing about three or four miles out this past week, rowing as fast as you can, really getting nowhere, but tired and forgetting the most important passenger - who calms storms, takes fears away, turns a gray, steel world into pink?*

*"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, Born to Set Thy People Free" - He is here! He wants to give you freedom - allow Him to this advent, so that you can be shot with glory.*

*The lake's blue now, as blue as the sky. With a little of the right exposure, it's reflecting the glorious sky. Could it be the same for us with just a little bit of the right exposure?*

*"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus..."*

*Your sister in Christ,*

*Lucy*