MAJOR LDS HYMNBOOK EDITIONS THROUGH THE YEARS

Emma Smith’s Hymn Collection, 1835
- Entitled *A Collection of Sacred Hymns for the Church of the Latter Day Saints*
- Published in Kirtland, Ohio
- 90 hymn texts (no music)
  - 39 written by Latter-day Saint poets, including Parley P. Pratt, William W. Phelps, and Eliza R. Snow

The Manchester Hymnal, 1840
- Entitled *A Collection of Sacred Hymns for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Europe*
- First published in March of 1840 in Manchester, England by Brigham Young, Parley P. Pratt, and John Taylor
- 271 hymn texts (no music)
  - At least 36 written by Parley P. Pratt
- 25 editions used officially for eighty-seven years

The Psalmody, 1889
- Entitled *Latter-day Saints’ Psalmody*
- First large collection of hymns to include musical settings with the texts
- Included many “choir hymns” created by Latter-day Saint composers for the Tabernacle Choir’s weekly performances

Songs of Zion, 1908
- Compiled by nine mission presidents in the United States
- Published by the Northern States Mission in Chicago in 1908
- Included about one hundred gospel song-style hymns

Deseret Sunday School Songs, 1909
- Published by the Deseret Sunday School Union
- Patterned after *Songs of Zion*
- Intended for use in “Sunday School, Primary, Religion Classes, and Home Socials”

Latter-day Saint Hymns, 1927
- Designed to include the best of the Manchester hymnal, the *Psalmody* of 1889, and *Songs of Zion*
- First hymnbook to include new hymns from the general membership of the Church secured through a hymn contest
- Used alongside *Deseret Sunday School Songs* until 1948, when *Hymns* merged the two
- Known by the Saints as “the green hymnbook”

Hymns, 1948
- Published in 1948 with 387 hymns
- Included hymns in four general categories: congregation, choir, men’s voices, and women’s voices
- Nearly half of the hymns borrowed from non-LDS sources
- A 1950 revised edition replaced some of the 1948 edition hymns with hymns from earlier LDS hymnbooks
Hymns, 1985
- Published in 1985 with 341 hymns
  - 92 new hymns, including 44 new LDS compositions
  - Included 26 hymns that were also in Emma Smith’s original 1835
- First hymnbook translated by Church headquarters into other languages (currently 38 translations in print, with several more in process)
- First hymnbook to include scriptures references for each hymn

MAJOR LDS CHILDREN’S SONGBOOK EDITIONS THROUGH THE YEARS

Eliza R. Snow’s Collection, 1880
- Published two years after the founding of the Primary Mutual Improvement Association
- Entitled *Hymns and Songs: Selected from various authors, for the Primary Associations of the Children of Zion*
- Published by Deseret News Printing and Publishing
- 121 texts collected by Eliza R. Snow, divided into “Hymns” and “Songs” (no music)
- A tune book was published the same year with 40 pages of music, along with suggestions for combining with various texts

The Primary Songbook, 1905
- The first song collection prepared by a Primary General Board
- Included 93 songs (text and music together), including marches, voluntaries, and seasonal songs
- Grew in subsequent editions to include 131 songs by 1948, such as:
  - Little Johnny Vegetable
  - The Toothbug Song
  - The Primary Penny Song

Little Stories in Song, 1940
- Included 85 songs
- Published by the Deseret Sunday School Union
- The two major contributors were LDS musicians and early childhood educators:
  - Moiselle Renstrom
  - Frances Kingsbury Thomassen Taylor

The Children Sing, 1951
- Included 199 songs plus 13 devotional preludes
- Songs divided into 7 sections:
  - The Children Sing of the Lord
  - The Children Sing of The Gospel of Jesus Christ
  - The Children Sing of Strength of Character
  - The Children Sing of Home and Family
  - The Children Sing of Special Days and Holidays
  - The Children Sing of Nature and the Seasons
  - The Children Sing for Special Occasions
- Known affectionately by members as “the blue book”

Sing with Me, 1969
- Included 217 songs
Church musicians invited through a call made in the *Church News* to write songs on gospel topics to teach doctrine

- Expanded through the publication of several supplements, all with the same bright orange cover as *Sing with Me* (but never published under a single cover):
  - *Activity Songs and Verses, 1977* (26 songs, 39 poems)
  - *Supplement to More Songs for Children, 1982* (10 songs, including class songs and songs from sacrament meeting presentations)

**Children’s Songbook, 1989**

- In current use
- Includes 255 songs plus 13 piano preludes
- Songs divided into seven topics:
  - My Heavenly Father
  - The Savior
  - The Gospel
  - Home and Family
  - Heritage
  - Nature and Seasons
  - Fun and Activity
- Printed with four-color pastel illustrations throughout on larger pages (8½ x 11 inches) than previous songbooks
- First songbook translated by Church headquarters into other languages
  - Translations include 110 songs (no preludes), printed in black and white