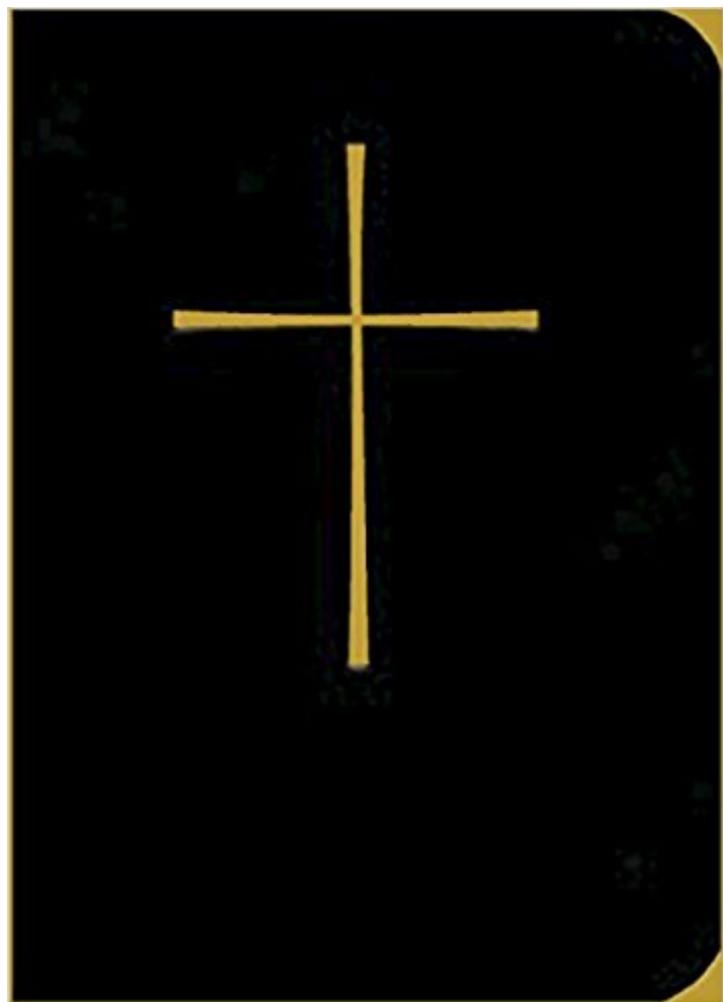


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Prayer Book And Hymnal



Synopsis

This is the standard Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church together with The Psalter or Psalms of David according to use in the Episcopal Church in the United States authorized in 1979. Included is the normative edition of The Hymnal 1982 for all who sing, choir and congregation alike, containing all hymns and service music. Genuine leather, gold edges, ribbon markers, gift box.

Book Information

Leather Bound: 1960 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 128 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

I came to the Episcopal church from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) which always published its hymnal and liturgies in one volume. And, our church made it even easier by printing the entire service, except for the hymns, in the bulletin. That way, you only needed the bulletin and the book of worship. In the Episcopal church, there is an understanding that you must juggle books in order to keep up. You need the latest version of the hoary old "The Book of Common Prayer" plus the hymnal plus the bulletin. And if a special communion service is used, that's a fourth source you need to follow. I make one inclined to throw up your hands and simply mouth everything, except those you already know by heart. This volume puts you on a parity with the Lutherans and other denominations who put everything in one book. There are a few bonuses. The paper is onionskin, and the book is still thick; however the printing is a very good size. No need for those with old eyes to bring a magnifying glass. The book has six sewn-in bookmark ribbons, which should be enough for almost all services. Our old Lutheran worship book had four, and that

was often not enough. Best of all, the pagination for the Book of Common Prayer is identical to the pagination found in the latest edition of the separate volume. So, when page numbers are announced or read in the bulletin, they will match the page number in this volume.

I needed a Prayer Book/Hymnal for serving at church. This is exactly that; this is 1982 Hymnal and the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. The Book of Common Prayer and Hymnal page numbers are consistent with the normal books in the pews. There are six ribbon markers in appropriate liturgical colors. The ribbons are a perfect length so that they stick out of the bottom of the book about an inch and a half. This is perfect for ease of grabbing. The pages are that super skinny onion skin. They are able to be turned easily during the service. The book is black genuine leather. It is about 2.2 inches thick, so even as a small female, I am able to hold the book in one hand throughout the service. The book is 2.2 x 6.9 x 9.3 inches, which means that the print is slightly larger than normal. One con is that if I am marking out the whole service, two more ribbons would be a real benefit. I bought an additional ribbon bookmark inserts from Cokesbury. With that, this book is perfect for any service in your regular Episcopal Church. Overall, it is exactly what I wanted!

My church uses a printed bulletin for the service I attend. The bulletin has all the parts of the BCP applicable to the service, including text of the lessons and Gospel. When we did the Great Litany, our Verger came by my pew when my husband and I were lost, and whispered the page numbers so we could follow along. After the service, we talked about the value of using the actual prayer book rather than a bulletin. For the next couple of services, I used the pew BCP and felt so much more connected to the service. I bought this book for myself as an early Confirmation gift, and used it for the first time yesterday. I had a deeper experience of the liturgy and felt God's presence so much more with this book than if I had used the bulletin. And I loved not having to use two books. I highly recommend this to anyone who wants to deepen their experience of the Episcopal liturgy. The book is high quality, and seems that it will last many years. The pages are a bit thin, but once the book has been used for a while and the pages stop sticking together due to the gold on the page edges, I don't think it will be a problem at all (and it didn't bother me much to begin with). Highly recommended.

There is a red-leather bound version and this, in black. They are identical insofar as I can tell looking through it after purchasing it for my wife. You might as well go with the less-expensive edition. This eliminates the need to juggle a Book of Common Prayer with the Hymnal in the pew

rack. With the ribbons, if you arrive about ten minutes before services, you can use the time to mark your place at critical junctures in the service, in advance. It almost makes the Episcopal worship experience too easy :-)

Simply put, If you are Episcopalian and sing in the choir this is a must have book to bring to church. Anyone else would benefit as well but sitting in the congregation you are not trying to balance choir music with your hymnal and BCP!

The BCP/Hymnal combination is a wonderful tool not only for worship leaders, but for anyone who wants to worship in the Episcopal tradition without the traditional juggling of books. has by far the best price anywhere for the book. This would be an excellent gift for confirmations, baptisms (of older children or adults) choir members, or just about any Episcopalian.

Just as I expected, gold edges needed to be ruffled before using as the pages are very crisp and thin. Print is clear and comfortable. Like others, I wish it had more ribbons to mark hymns, service music as well as the actual service in use that day. Over time the pages seem to mark themselves. Far better than juggling 2 books.

Durable, and the multiple ribbons helps a LOT if you sing in the choir and need to bookmark multiple hymns for immediate use when your conductor needs you to transition from one song to another quickly. And since you have that and the BCP included, you don't have to worry about balancing several books along with your sheet music for the anthems. If you are in a church choir in an anglican tradition, I recommend purchasing this, it is a very good investment.

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