

The first (1790) American Book of Common Prayer,  
Formatted as the original

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## The Churching of WOMEN.

and blifs, both in body and foul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory; through Jefus Chrift our Lord. *Amen.*

**O** Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jefus Chrift, who is the refurrection and the life; in whom whofoever believeth, fhall live, though he die; and whofoever liveth, and believeth in him, fhall not die eternally; who alfo hath taught us, by his holy Apoftle Saint Paul, not to be forry, as men without hope, for thofe who fleep in him; We humbly befeech thee, O Father, to raife us from the death of fin unto the life of righteoufnefs; that, when we fhall depart this life, we may

reft in him; and that, at the general refurrection in the laft day, we may be found acceptable in thy fight; and receive that bleffing, which thy well-beloved Son fhall then pro-nounce to all who love and fear thee, faying, Come, ye bleffed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world: Grant this, we befeech thee, O merciful Father, through Jefus Chrift, our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

**T**He grace of our Lord Jefus Chrift, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghoft, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

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The THANKSGIVING of WOMEN after Child-birth:

*Commonly called,*

### The CHURCHING of WOMEN.

¶ *This Service, or the concluding Prayer alone, as it ftands among the Occafional Prayers and Thankfgivings in this fervice, may be ufed, at the difcretion of the Minifter.*

¶ *The Woman, at the ufual Time after her Delivery, fhall come into the Church decently apparelled, and there fhall kneel down in fome convenient place, as hath been accuftomed, or as the Ordinary fhall direct: And then the Prieft fhall fay unto her,*

**F**orafmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, of his goodnefs, to give you fafe deliverance, and to preferve you in the great danger of Child-birth; you fhall therefore give hearty thanks unto God, and fay,

(¶ *Then fhall the Minifter fay the following Hymn, taken from the 116th Pfalm.*)

*Dilexi, quoniam.*

**I** Am well pleased; that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer;

That he hath inclined his ear unto me; Therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

I found trouble and heavinefs, and I called upon the Name of the Lord;

## The Churching of WOMEN.

Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.

What reward shall I give unto the Lord, for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows now in the presence of all his people; in the courts of the Lord's house, even in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Minister say the Lord's prayer, with what follows: But the Lord's Prayer may be omitted, if this be used with the Morning or Evening Prayer.*

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done on Earth, As it is in Heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. *Amen.*

*Minist.* O Lord, save this woman thy servant.

*Answe.* Who putteth her trust in thee.

*Minist.* Be thou to her a strong tower,

*Answe.* From the face of her enemy.

*Minist.* Lord, hear our prayer;

*Answe.* And let our cry come unto thee.

*Minist.* Let us pray.

O Almighty God, we give thee humble thanks, for that thou hast been graciously pleased to preserve, through the great pain and peril of Child-birth, this woman thy servant, who desires now to offer her praises and thanksgivings unto thee. Grant, we beseech thee, most merciful Father, that she, through thy help, may both faithfully live, and walk according to thy will, in this life present, and also may be partaker of everlasting glory in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *The Woman that cometh to give her thanks, must offer accustomed offerings; which shall be applied by the Minister and the Church Wardens to the relief of distressed Women in Childbed: and if there be a Communion, it is convenient that she receive the holy Communion.*