

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

This document was created in Adobe InDesign and then converted into Adobe Acrobat (PDF) files, which is what you are reading right now. It is intended to appear exactly as the original in every way. The original text had no title page, but was likely printed in 1790, and was intended to be inserted into existing English folio BCP's used as altar books in a church.

The font used is HW Caslon's "Caslon 14", which seems to be a very good match to the original. The original was printed on pages about 15.5 x 9.5", or somewhat larger than an 8-1/2 x 11" sheet of paper. You can reduce it as desired for printing using the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

You may redistribute this document electronically provided no fee is charged and this header remains part of the document. While every attempt was made to ensure accuracy, certain errors may exist in the text. Please contact us if any errors are found.

This document was created as a service to the community by Satucket Software: Web Design & computer consulting for small business, churches, & non-profits.

Contact:

Charles Wohlers

P. O. Box 227

East Bridgewater, Mass. 02333 USA

[chadwohl@satucket.com](mailto:chadwohl@satucket.com)

<http://satucket.com>

P R A Y E R S .

¶ *A Prayer of St. Chryſtoſtom.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, who haſt given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common ſupplications unto thee; and doſt promiſe, that, when two or three are gathered together in thy Name, thou wilt grant their requeſts; fulfill now, O Lord, the deſires and petitions of thy ſervants, as may be moſt expedi-

ent for them; granting us in this world know-ledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlaſting. *Amen.*

2 *Cor.* xiii. 14.

**T**HE grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and the love of God, and the fellowſhip of the Holy Ghoſt, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

*Here endeth the LITANY.*

*PRAYERS and THANKSGIVINGS upon ſeveral Occaſions, to be uſed before the two final Prayers of MORNING and EVENING SERVICE.*

P R A Y E R S .

¶ *A Prayer for CONGRESS, to be uſed during their Seſſion.*

**M**OST gracious God, we humbly beſeech thee, as for the Peoples of theſe United States in general, ſo eſpecially for their Senate and Representatives in Congreſs aſſembled; That thou wouldeſt be pleaſed to direct and proſper all their conſultations, to the advancement of thy Glory, the good of thy Church, the ſafety, honour and welfare of thy people; that all things may be ſo ordered and ſettled by their endeavours, upon the beſt and ſureſt foundations, that peace and happineſs, truth and juſtice, religion and piety, may be eſtabliſhed among us for all generations. Theſe and all other neceſſaries, for them, for us, and thy whole Church, we humbly beg in the

Name and mediation of Jeſus Chriſt, our moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

¶ *For a Sick Perſon.*

**O**FATHER of mercies, and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; Look down from heaven, we humbly beſeech thee, behold, viſit, and relieve thy ſick ſervant for whom our prayers are deſired: Look upon *him* with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort *him* with a ſenſe of thy goodneſs; preſerve *him* from the temptations of the enemy; give *him* patience under *his* affliction; and, in thy good time, reſtore *him* to health, and enable *him* to lead the reſidue of *his* life in thy fear, and to thy glory: Or elſe give *him* grace ſo to take thy viſitation, that, after this painful life ended, *he* may dwell

P R A Y E R S .

with thee in life everlasting ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *For a Sick Child.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, and merciful Father, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death ; Look down from heaven, we humbly beseech thee, with the eyes of mercy, upon the sick child for whom our prayers are desired ; Deliver *him*, O Lord, in thy good appointed time, from *his* bodily pain, and visit *him* with thy salvation ; that if it should be thy good pleasure to prolong *his* days here on earth, *he* may live to thee, and be an instrument of thy glory, by serving thee faithfully, and doing good in *his* generation : Or else receive *him*, into those heavenly habitations where the souls of those who sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and felicity. Grant this, O Lord, for the love of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ *For a Person, or Persons, going to Sea.*

**O**ETERNAL God, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the sea ; we commend, to thy almighty protection, thy servant, for whose preservation on the great deep our prayers are desired. Guard *him*, we beseech thee, from the dangers of the sea, from sickness, from the violence of enemies and from every evil to which *he* may be exposed. Conduct *him* in safety to the haven where *he* would

be, with a grateful sense of thy mercies, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *For a Person under Affliction*

**O**MERCIFUL God and heavenly Father, who hast taught us in thy holy word, that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men ; Look with pity, we beseech thee, upon the sorrows of thy servant, for whom our prayers are desired. In thy wisdom thou hast seen fit to visit *him* with trouble, and to bring distress upon *him*: Remember *him*, O Lord in mercy ; sanctify thy fatherly correction to *him* ; endue *his* soul with patience under *his* affliction, and with resignation to thy blessed will ; comfort *him* with a sense of thy goodness ; lift up thy countenance upon *him*, and give him peace ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *For Malefactors, after Condemnation. Or else the Prayer in the Visitation of Prisoners ; beginning "O Father of Mercies," &c., may be used.*

**O**MOST gracious and merciful God, we earnestly beseech thee to have pity and compassion upon *those persons* recommended to our prayers, who now lie under the sentence of the law, and are appointed to die. Visit *them*, O Lord, with thy mercy and salvation ; convince *them* of the miserable condition *they* are in, by *their* sins and wickedness ; and let thy powerful grace produce in

## T H A N K S G I V I N G S.

*them* such a godly sorrow, and sincere repentance, as thou wilt be pleased to accept. Give *them* a strong and lively faith in thy Son, our blessed Saviour, and make it effectual to the salvation of *their* souls. O Lord, in judgment remember mercy; and whatever sufferings *they* are to endure in this world, yet deliver *them*, O God, from the bitter pains of eternal death. Pardons *their* sins, and save *their* souls, for the sake and merits of thy dear Son, our blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

## T H A N K S G I V I N G S.

¶ *The Thanksgiving of Women after Child-birth; to be said when any Woman, being present in Church, shall have desired to return Thanks to Almighty God for her safe Deliverance.*

**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.*

¶ *For a Recovery from Sicknes.*

**O** GOD, who art giver of life, of health, and of safety; We bless thy Name, that thou hast been pleased to deliver from *his* bodily sickness this thy servant, who now desireth to return thanks unto thee, in the presence of all thy people. Gracious art thou, O Lord, and full of compassion to the children of men. May *his* heart be duly impressed with a sense of thy merciful goodness, and may *he* devote the residue of *his* days to an humble, holy, and obedient walking before thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *For a safe Return from Sea.*

**M**OST gracious Lord, whose mercy is over all thy works; We praise thy holy Name that thou hast been pleased to conduct in safety, through the perils of the great deep, this thy servant, who now desireth to return *his* thanks unto thee, in thy holy Church: May *he* be duly sensible of thy merciful providence towards *him*, and ever express *his* thankfulness by a holy trust in thee, and obedience to thy laws; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*