

Adult Confirmation/Reception Class

Class Four | February 27

Tools of the Trade: The Book of Common Prayer

Opening Prayer

Review from our Last Class

I. PRAYER BOOK HISTORY

The history of the BCP is the epitome of *lex orandi, lex credendi*.

BCPs published in:

- 1549
- 1552
- 1559
- 1662
- 1789
- 1897
- 1928

II. THE 1979 BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

The 1979 BCP is modeled on “full, active, and conscious participation”

“RUBRICS”

- Directive
- Permissive
- Rubrical Order

Supplemental Texts to BCP:

- Enriching Our Worship 1
- Enriching our Worship 2
- The Book of Occasional Services

THE LECTIONARY CYCLE – Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)

Supplemental Texts to the RCL:

- Great Cloud of Witnesses

NEXT CLASS:

Class Five | March 20

Time and Space: The Liturgical Year and Sacred Architecture

1517: Martin Luther publishes his 95 Theses, sparking the Protestant Reformation from the Catholic Church.

1521: Pope designates Henry VIII "Defender of the Faith."
English monarchs to this day retain the title.

1529-36: Henry VIII and Parliament take over the administration of the Church in England. Henry is named "Head of the Church of England." Destruction of monasteries ensues.

1547: Henry dies. Succeeded by his sickly son, Edward VI, w/ Edward's uncle as Lord Protector.

1549: **The 1st Book of Common Prayer** (BCP) is approved, w/ Thomas Cranmer as principal author.

1552: **The 2nd BCP** is approved, Cranmer, Ridley and Latimer principal editors.

1553: Edward VI dies at age 16. Mary Tudor becomes Queen, restores Roman Catholicism, and burns Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley at the stake. She marries Philip II, the Roman Catholic monarch of Spain.

1558: Elizabeth I becomes Queen upon Mary's death and re-establishes the Church of England, with the English monarch as its highest earthly authority.

1559: 1549 BCP is slightly revised and the **3rd BCP** is approved. Puritans protest.

1563: The Thirty-Nine Articles are prepared; they are approved by Parliament in 1571.

1579: The first English-language Communion service is held in the Western Hemisphere (California) using 1559 BCP by Sir Francis Drake's chaplain.

1603: Elizabeth I dies at age 70; James I, of Scotland becomes king and authorizes a new translation of the Bible, later called THE KING JAMES VERSION.

1607: The Church of England is established in the first permanent English-speaking settlement in the New World, Jamestown, Virginia. The Church of England is then also established in other mid-Atlantic and southern colonies.

1611: King James Version of the Bible is finally published.

1620: Pilgrims (Puritan religious refugees) land at Plymouth Rock.

1645: The 1559 Book of Common Prayer is outlawed by Puritan-controlled Parliament in England.

1649: King Charles I is executed in a revolution led by Puritan leader Oliver Cromwell, who becomes Lord Protector in 1653.

1658: Oliver Cromwell dies, and is succeeded by son Richard who is overthrown 2 years later.

1660: Charles II becomes king.

1662: **The 4th BCP** is approved, which is still in use by the Church of England.

1607-1785: The Church of England in New World is overseen by the Bishop of London. The vestry system develops. Clergy are paid from taxes. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson both serve on vestries.

1776: The Declaration of Independence is signed. Most Anglican clergy, who have sworn loyalty to the King in their ordinations, stay loyal.

1783: The Treaty of Paris ends the Revolutionary War.

1784: Samuel Seabury of Connecticut is consecrated the first overseas Anglican bishop by Scottish non-juring bishops, after being elected in Connecticut and rejected by Church of England bishops, who, legally, could not ordain him. Seabury promised to use the Scottish 1764 Communion service, based on the Eastern Orthodox service.

1785: The First General Convention of Episcopal Church is held, with clergy and lay representatives from Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. The General Convention authorizes the preparation of an American Prayer Book and names itself the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America (PECUSA).

1786: The proposed American Book of Common Prayer is approved for use on a state-by-state basis.

1787: Samuel Provoost of New York and William White of Philadelphia are consecrated bishops by the Church of England. **The 1789 BCP** is prepared by White, is adopted; this version of the Book of Common Prayer is based on the 1662 Prayer Book with the exception of the 1764 Scottish Communion Service. This is the first strictly American Prayer Book.

1892: Minor revisions are made and the **1892 Book of Common Prayer** is published.

1919: The National Council (now the Executive Council) is established by General Convention. The Office of the Presiding Bishop is established to oversee national church programs.

1928: The revised **1928 Book of Common Prayer** includes language updates and a new translation of Psalms. "Love, honor, and obey" is dropped from the bride's vows in the service of Holy Matrimony.

1940: A new Hymnal is approved.

1944: Henry St. George Tucker becomes the Episcopal Church's first full-time Presiding Bishop.

1961: John Hines of Texas is elected Presiding Bishop. Strong social justice commitments elicit negative reaction from conservatives.

1970: The first authorized women members join the House of Deputies.

1973: John Allin of Mississippi is elected Presiding Bishop for 12-year term.

1974: The first eleven women are ordained to priesthood in an "irregular" service in Philadelphia.

1976: General Convention approves the ordination of women, and "regularizes" those 1974-75 ordinations. First reading on new Prayer Book.

1979: Second reading approves new (present) **1979 Book of Common Prayer**.

1982: A new Hymnal is approved.