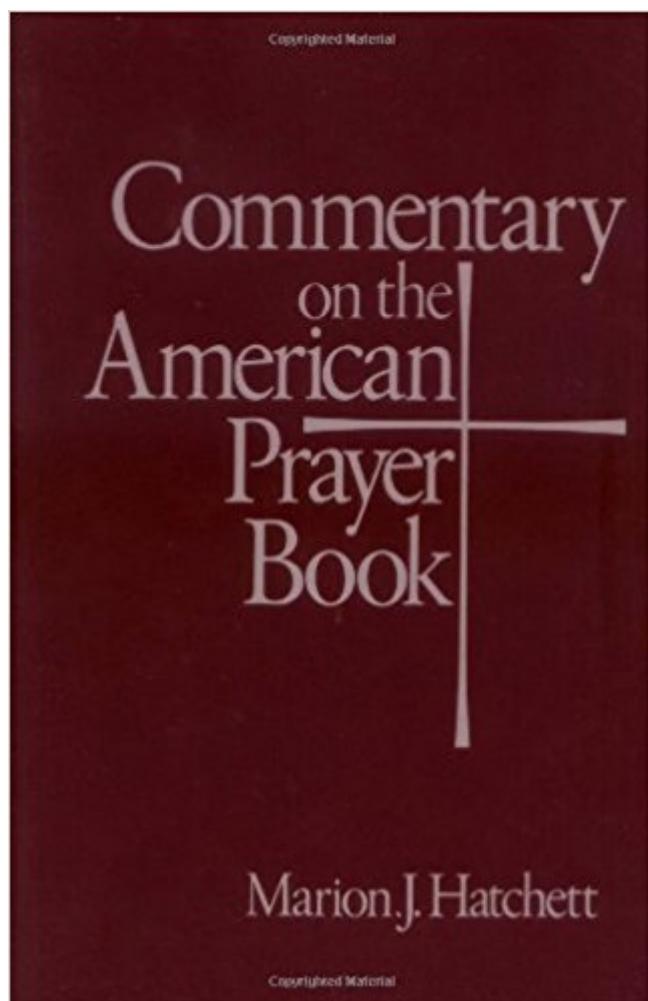


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# Commentary On The American Prayer Book



## **Synopsis**

Traces and comments upon the sources, history, and development of each of the rites and formularies of the book from the earliest known forms until the present day.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Traces and comments upon the sources, history, and development of each of the rites and formularies of the book from the earliest known forms until the present day.

Hatchett delivers a thorough commentary on the entire content of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) of the Episcopal Church of the USA. His commentary on all sections of the BCP offers background and history of the content, language and theology behind the current version. This is extremely helpful and interesting, as when appropriate Hatchett shows the process of inclusion and revision of content from the first Prayer Book of the Church of England in 1549 down to the current version. Often he provides examples of original prayers or rites that have been altered. He discusses the reasons for such changes. Many times his historical explanations refer to the Judaic practices, the Apostolic Church, the early church and down through the ages. He often cites or references such documents as the "Apostolic Tradition" of Hippolytus and other early church "liturgies." His writing is fluid and easily accessible by novices to the BCP and also robust enough to be appreciated by scholars and priests in the church. For priests, deacons or other leaders hoping for guidance or better understanding on the BCP, this is the place to find it. Hatchett seems to

always find the right balance between not enough information and too much information for the diverse audiences of this book. For anyone who takes the BCP seriously and values it, this is almost a necessary resource because of its usefulness. At the very least, it will help develop a greater appreciation for the BCP and those who have developed the past editions and the current 1979 edition. I cannot imagine a reader being disappointed with this commentary.

An important book for those interested in Anglican worship. Book received was new, as promised in impeccable condition. Thanks.

Since, after serving many years in Roman Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran Church of America congregations, I have just taken a position in an Episcopalian congregation, I was casting about for a meaty but accessible reference about worship. Hatchett has done a great job. Any serious church worker or congregant needs this book at hand for constant, lucid and easy reference. At almost 700 pages one will certainly not want to read it in one sitting but the style and importance of the book will invite periodic forays into the text and ideas it contains.

All questions are addressed. Easy to use.

A "must have" for anyone who loves Anglican worship. Much more than just information about the writing of the 1979 prayer book--contains wonderful historical facts about liturgy in the Christian church. I highly recommend this classic.

I gave away my copy upon retirement and quickly learned I still needed it for research, grateful it came so soon.

Very informative, majestic

I was skeptical about the 700 pages but I have been using it daily. As a new Episcopalian, this book explains the Book of Common Prayer as it is and how it got that way (history). I highly recommend it.

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