

Growing in Faith - Unit 1

The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Prayers and Thanksgivings

BCP 809 - 841

Inspiration: Psalm 92:1-5

You belong to an organization and some of your friends there have heard you talk about being an Episcopalian. They have an event coming up that calls for an opening prayer by one of their members, and they have asked you to do that.

Pick one of these occasions and find a prayer that you can use right out of the Book of Common Prayer *OR* you might want to choose a prayer that you could modify a bit to fit the group and the occasion.

- 1 - July 4th Civic Service on the Village Green (maybe a prayer of petition, maybe a prayer of thanksgiving)
- 2 - Professional Group honoring High School Students with a Scholarship (try BCP 828-9)
- 3 - Conservation Group Celebrating Earth Day (several prayers might work here from various sections)
- 4 - A Cousin (Sibling, Aunt, Uncle, etc.) is throwing a party for their child's Christening. Can you find a prayer to honor them. (Try BCP 828-832)

Growing in Faith - Unit 1
The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Marriage
BCP 423 - 438

Inspiration: Genesis 2:20-24; John 2:1-11

Story 1

Friends of yours are engaged to be married. They are looking for a church to join so they will have a place to start their life together. What can you tell them about the choices they have when planning a service?

Where will they find Scripture readings?

How many may they have?

Are any mandatory?

Do they have to exchange rings?

What clergy may officiate at a wedding?

Do you have to follow the wedding part of the ceremony with Holy Eucharist?

Growing in Faith - Unit 1
The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Marriage (continued)

Story 2

Before being deployed overseas, Max and Marci decided to get married. Because time was running short, they got married by a Justice of the Peace. Now that their lives are settled down, they would like to have their marriage blessed in church with family and friends to help celebrate.

Is there a service for this? Page no.?

How is it similar to the usual rite for Marriage?

Growing in Faith - Unit 1
The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Daily Office
BCP 35 - 144

Inspiration: Matthew 6:5-15

You have agreed to lead an evening prayer service for a retreat group at church.

It is the **First Sunday of Advent**.

(Choose one - BCP 936-7 and use it to select a Psalm and Reading)

Follow the service on BCP 139
(after reading BCP 136 for some direction).

1 - How will you begin:

2 - Opening verses (BCP 139)

3 - Optional [You could include a Psalm or omit it]
Psalm # And Page #

4 - Scripture Reading
Choose 1 from either Old or New Testament

5 - The Prayers
How will you introduce these?

6 - The Lord's Prayer
How will you introduce this?

7 - The Collect(s) - may pray more than one

If you choose only one, use the one on BCP 139.

If you choose more than one, you can use the Collect of the Day (First Sunday of Advent, BCP 211), or any other Collect appropriate to the theme of the retreat.

How will you close this service? What will you say?

Growing in Faith - Unit 1
The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Funerals
BCP 469 - 507

Inspiration: John 11; Mark 5:21-42; Luke 7:11-15

Samantha's close friend Linda is in a difficult situation: her grandmother is very ill, and is not expected to survive more than another week. Linda knows that Samantha goes to church occasionally (the same one you attend), so she asks her if she would offer a prayer or two the next time they visit her grandmother. It would be a comfort to her grandmother and other family members. Samantha comes to you for advice.

Being familiar with the Book of Common Prayer, where would you go in the prayer book to help her? How would you help her to select the prayers.

Imagine the conversation you would have with her.

BCP 458-461 (prayers for a sick person)

BCP pg 462 - 467 (prayers for someone near death)

Growing in Faith - Unit 1
The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Catechism
BCP 845 -862

Inspiration: Deuteronomy 4:9; Psalm 34:11-14

Your 13 year old nephew, with whom you have a close relationship, has become curious about some things he has heard, but doesn't understand. He asks you things like 'Who/What is God?', 'Who was Jesus?', 'What about the Bible?' You happen to have your Prayer Book handy, where would you look to find the answers to his questions?

Growing in Faith - Unit 1
The Book of Common Prayer and the Creeds

Church Calendar

BCP 879 - 1001

Inspiration: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

You are planning a major event, so you started planning early. The event will take place in spring of 2024, and you want it to take place the weekend after Easter, but you're not sure what that date will be. You learned in Confirmation class that this information is in the Prayer Book someplace, but where?

BCP pg 883