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Daily Prayer For All Seasons [English Edition]



Synopsis

• Fresh new material for a daily prayer discipline • Approved for use by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church • Available in English and Spanish (separate volumes) • People in all kinds of religious traditions, including Judaism and Christianity, have been marking time with prayer for almost as long as we've divided the day into hours. • "Praying the hours," as it's called, has always reminded us that God walks with us throughout each day; • "praying the hours" is also a way that the community of faith comes together, whether we're united all in one place or scattered like raindrops. In the Episcopal Church, the Book of Common Prayer offers beautiful services for morning, noon, evening, and nighttime in a section called "The Daily Office" (pp 35-146). Daily Prayer for All Seasons offers a variation on that theme, where a complete service covers one or two pages, thereby eliminating the need to shuffle prayer books and hymnals. Daily Prayer for All Seasons works for individuals, small groups, and/or congregations. This prayer book presents a variety of images of God, uses inclusive and expansive language for and about God, and presents a rich variety of language, including poetry, meditation, and prayers from the broader community of faith. For all Episcopalians - and others - interested in the daily office and praying the hours. • Episcopalians are bound together by prayer, and when we draw those prayers from our diverse traditions and cultures, we come closer to the heart of God. "Daily Prayer for All Seasons" gives us prayers, poems and meditations in many voices to mark the hours of the day and the seasons of the year. I am grateful to the leaders from across the Episcopal Church who have collaborated on this important new set of prayers for everyday life. • --The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, president, House of Deputies of The Episcopal Church • A call to prayer that sounds through the hours of our days and nights, revealing God with us as the seasons turn. This generous book is simple and rich at the same time, full of beauty and shaped for use. May it open the prayer of those who pray alone and deepen the prayer of groups. • • Sara Miles, Director of Ministry, St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, and the author of Take This Bread and City of God, San Francisco, California Daily prayer, most especially the Daily Offices, has been characteristic of the Anglican liturgical tradition for more than four centuries. • As the prayer book tradition has been reshaped by being planted in many diverse nations and cultures, the forms of daily prayer have been modified. • • Daily Prayer for All Seasons • marks another stage in that evolution by asserting that, even in complex and busy lives, we are still called to turn our hearts and minds to God in remembrance that our very lives are God's first gift to us. • • The Rev. Dr. Louis Weil, • James F. Hodges and Harold and Rita Haynes Professor Emeritus of Liturgics, Church Divinity School of the Pacific • Pray at all times and when necessary use words. These prayers will

help you pray at all times and find the right words when necessary. In their diversity, these prayers are manna from heaven for folks who are seeking new and creative ways of prayer. This book will teach you how to pray. •The Reverend Mark Francisco Bozzuti-Jones, Priest for Pastoral Care & Community and Staff Chaplain, Trinity Wall Street Episcopal Church, New York, NY • For stillness in the scrum of commuting; for peace and guidance during retreat; for vigor and hope in the midst of the day's work; for healing and wholeness in rest at the end, we pray - and may you and each community of which you are a part use this graceful gift to pray as well. --- The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church •

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Customer Reviews

I have been praying with "Daily Prayers for All Seasons" about a month now, liturgical rhythm takes time to synch with, to dance with as it were. These prayers remain awkward. They have, what I can only describe as, a self-conscious late model Protestantism (the once proud mainline on mainstreet) about them. The abundance of quotes from persons outside the Anglican tradition does not alleviate this disquiet for me. (Speaking of Anglican tradition, our blessed and beloved Percy Dearmer in 1919 cautioned about collects "written by committee") These prayer offices want always to explain themselves, rather than allowing the religious actor to live into the mystery, without note or comment. My professor of liturgics would refer to this practice as the sin of "proscribing the mystery." This little breviary seems to confuse commentary for rubrics. The material that seeks to make it timely (the questions for reflection) quickly became tiresome for me. That being said, many of the professions of faith that are a part of the morning office are worth the price of admission. I

have prayed several of these offices with a trusted group of friends in the parish I attend, it worked and there is a place for liturgies for meetings. Years ago The Forward Movement published a little breviary "Hour by Hour" granted imperfect language, but it was a simple invitation into the mystery of prayer done as a dance throughout the day. "Daily Prayers for all Seasons" is the "cool" dude who came to the party, painfully aware of his carefully constructed cool, he asked me to dance and I tried, but there was no joy or rhythm, the dude just couldn't get out of his head and into his heart and talked away through and over most of the music.

This book contains many shorter versions of Morning & Evening prayer throughout the church seasons. I have been using it in the mornings to start my day and hope to use the evening prayers also. It is easy to carry with you throughout the day. The price is very reasonable.

This book presents an interesting effort to make daily prayer more accessible. Yet prayers seem stilted rather than straightforward. It is worth the effort, however, and the affirmations are very helpful.

You may possibly not spend your hard-earned money on multiple prayer books - but I do. I use them every day and like to have variety AND really well-written, edited collections of daily prayers. This one is not new, but I had not looked at it. It is really different from any others I've seen, yet nothing gimmicky. It is based upon the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. It has a week's worth of prayers for every liturgical season of the year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Ordinary Time et al.) Each time of day has a brief but fairly comprehensive set of prayers. Some are even hymns to be sung, although it doesn't contain the melodies. It tells where you can find them. For something that has the right "feel," namely that these are real prayers, not just made up to sound nice, that don't drag on and on, that cover the whole of life, but in several days, not all at once, that actually use different points of view, that are not just like everything else, I recommend this book. It is small and light, too, so you could carry it with you.

I very much enjoy new prayers in the tradition. They sparkle and after six decades of reading BoC, I appreciate a bit of a variation. I can see that it bothers some who want to recite the same words all of the time. I insert Holy Ghost rather than Holy Spirit half of the time at church, so I do understand. I can't pray the hours, which is a bit frustrating and I do Morning Prayer most days but this is a nice addition. It is a good value for me.

It was better than I thought it would be but a little laborous

What a breath of fresh air! For once a liturgical resource that sings with the voices of many cultures and yet remains true to the Anglican tradition.

A very helpful book for clergy that provide weekday services and ecumenical services in the community. It is also good for private individual daily prayer.

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