

# The Book of Common Worship 2018

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# Notable Features of the 2018 *Book of Common Worship*

- commentary based on revised, more accessible Directory for Worship
- accounts for *Invitation to Christ* and ongoing sacramental renewal (rubrics)
- attention to new worshipping communities, different styles/approaches
- incorporates additional material from biblical and confessional Resources
- foregrounding freedom, strengthening form; “why” and “how,” not just “what”
- significant streamlining of liturgies throughout; shorter prayers, more action
- consistent organization: commentary, servicebook (less), sourcebook (more)
- new sections on creation/ecology, natural/human disaster, justice/reconciliation
- guidelines for interreligious gatherings in times of celebration or lament
- includes all 150 psalms (resource for lament) in ecumenically shared translation
- congregational song: GTG and PH, more hymn suggestions, new options for singing
- psalms arranged for responsive reading; resources for singing in different styles
- selected resources in Spanish, including a bilingual Service for the Lord’s Day
- illustrated liturgical gestures and common phrases in English, Korean, Spanish
- consistency with common texts, but fresh voice (in fact, multiple voices)
- attention to ecumenical renewal, while preserving Reformed features
- new patterns and responses for eucharistic prayer, maintaining trinitarian structure
- *Book of Occasional Services* and *Book of Common Worship* under one cover
- revised marriage liturgy is inclusive, while still familiar/rooted in tradition
- revised funeral liturgy is more helpful to pastors, less “denial of death”
- unified ordination liturgy will strengthen, clarify our understanding of ministry
- daily prayer easier to use, with stronger emphasis on dying/rising in Christ
- fewer copyright/permissions issues will provide for new media
- thematic and scriptural indexes will facilitate navigation, worship planning
- new artwork throughout the book; fresh attention to design