

# CATHOLIC CHURCH.

## Catholic Church, North Dutch Book of Hours, 1470-1500

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-4166

---

---

### Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Catholic Church.  
**Title:** Catholic Church, North Dutch Book of Hours, 1470-1500  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 086  
**Extent:** 1 box  
**Abstract:** The North Dutch Book of Hours, inclusive of the "Hours of the Eternal Wisdom," by Gerard Groot (a member of the Brothers of the Common Life), Hours of the Virgin, and Penitential Psalms.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in Dutch.

---

---

### Administrative Information

#### Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

#### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### Related Materials

Part of the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection of Pitts Theology Library.

#### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Catholic Church, North Dutch Book of Hours, Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

#### Processing

Processed by Cynthia Crouch, November 1987.

---

---

## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

The chief aim of the Brethren of the Common Life was the spread of practical Christianity, and their principle desire was to imitate the life and example of the primitive Apostolic Church. For a year, Luther (probably 1497-1498) had been at school at Magdeburg where he appears to have been taught by some Brethren of the Common Life. They deepened his piety, and in no way raised in his mind any thought of opposition against the Roman Church, though it may have been through them that he first came to know the vernacular Bible.

In the Middle Ages, the Hours indicated inexact portions of the day devoted to the fulfillment of business and religious duties. Material splendor was considered appropriate to the expression of spirituality, and each worshiper, according to his means, spent unstintingly for the glorification of his Book of Hours. The liturgical contents come from the service books of the Church.

[Harthan, John. *The Book of Hours*. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1977.]

### Scope and Content Note

Used at Utrecht between 1470 and 1500, the North Dutch Book of Hours includes the "Hours of the Eternal Wisdom," by Gerard Groot (a member of the Brothers of the Common Life), Hours of the Virgin, and Penitential Psalms.

Initial letters are illuminated in dark blue, light blue, red, light red or orange. The illuminations in this Dutch manuscript are typical of northern European manuscripts.

[209] leaves: vellum (leather binding probably not original)

This manuscript is stored in a clamshell box covered in blue buckram that is separate from the document box for Msc. 001.

