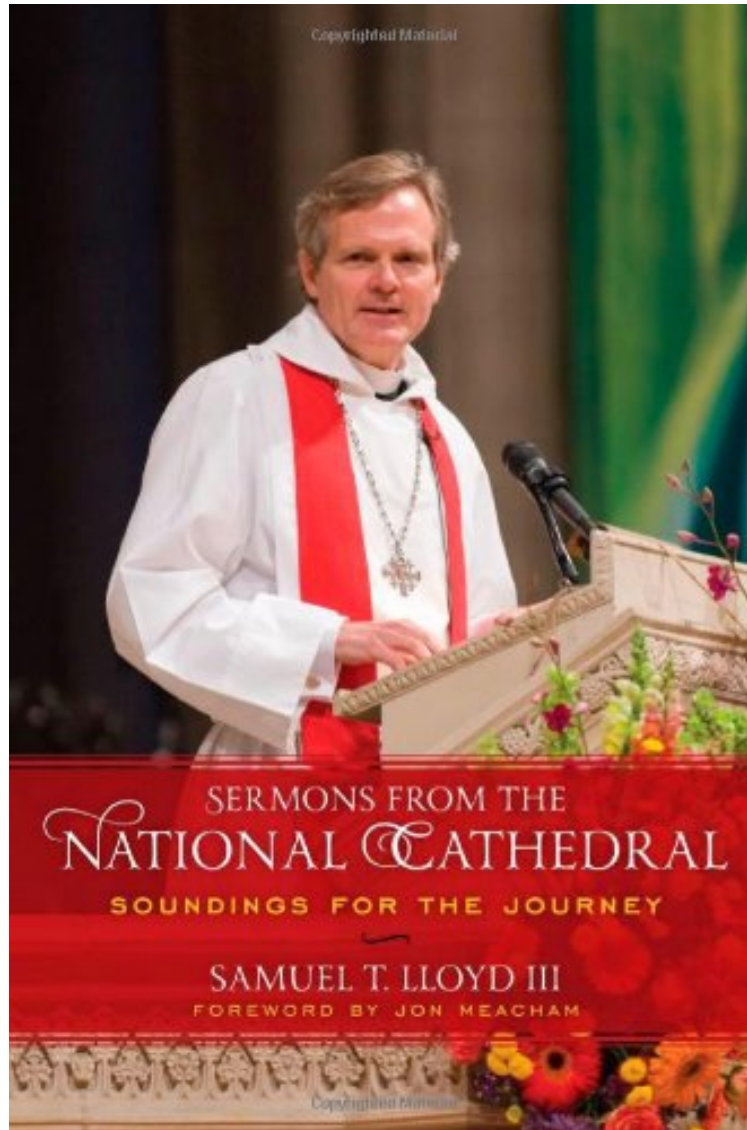


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Sermons from the National Cathedral: Soundings for the Journey

Samuel T., III Lloyd

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Samuel T., III Lloyd : Sermons from the National Cathedral: Soundings for the Journey before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sermons from the National Cathedral: Soundings for the Journey:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant, inspirational, practical By Jean E Field This is a brilliant, touching and inspirational view of Christianity and its meaning for the contemporary world. Dr. Lloyd writes on a level that is easy to comprehend. He offers obtainable guideposts for living a devotional life and developing a meaningful relationship with the God who wants to know and love all of us. His language and his examples are poetic

and illuminating. You can almost hear him speak these words from the pulpit. Each chapter is short and can be taken as food for meditation and growth. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Stirring messages that speak directly to you By a professional historian Thoughtful and incisive sermons delivered at the National Cathedral by a learned priest; each is short enough to serve as the basis for a daily devotion and relevant enough to keep you engaged in the work of the world and of God's kingdom. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring and instructive for preachers By Sandra L. Etemad Great sermons to inspire better preaching.

Washington National Cathedral stands in an unparalleled position at the intersection of religious faith and public life in America, and has been called the spiritual home for the nation. Dean Samuel T. Lloyd III occupied its massive Canterbury pulpit as dean during an often-turbulent period in the nation and rapid changes in American religious life. In *Sermons from the National Cathedral*, Dean Lloyd provides a compelling vision of an intellectually alive, publicly engaged Christian faith, a vision of the Christian life rooted in ancient teaching. Readers will find the sermons engaging and appreciate that Dean Lloyd takes seriously the experiences of doubt and searching that are so much a part of the modern religious experience of our time. He successfully demonstrates the positive role faith can play in public life and addresses the questions and challenges faith must face in the twenty-first century. These soundings, as Lloyd calls them, illumine the full spectrum of Christian belief while also addressing such issues as the difficulty of faith, the relationship between science and faith, the mystery of suffering, the necessity of forgiveness, the meaning of the cross, the urgency of reconciliation, and the call to care for the earth. These reflections will appeal to traditional Christians seeking spiritual enrichment and are accessible to those seeking answers to how their faith fits into our modern world.

Lloyd was a highly effective rector at Boston's historic Trinity Church before being elevated to the post of dean at Washington's National Cathedral in 2005. Then, to the surprise of all concerned, he returned to Trinity as priest-in-charge in September 2011: rising in the church means more administration and less preaching, it seems. And Lloyd relished preaching. These sermons, from the cathedral's Canterbury pulpit to an ever-shifting congregation of visitors, tourists, and dignitaries, exhibit the finest homiletics of a denomination not generally praised for great preaching. In an era that Lloyd recognized as one in which we are approaching religion in an increasingly individualistic, more private and eclectic manner, he sought to demonstrate a new work of the Spirit, responsive to our times. The sermons here are arranged thematically into three Books: Reflections on Faith, Events and Issues (including his sermon for President Obama's first inauguration), and Church Year. A mirror of important times in the history of the Episcopal Church and the nation, these sermons will be of interest to most Episcopalians and most seminaries. With a foreword by Jon Meacham. (Library Journal) As someone who is both a full-time pastor and preacher as well as writer I know full well how hard it is, seemingly impossible at times, to offer a word of hope, encouragement, and inspiration on a weekly basis. There are times when I feel high and dry yet I need to muster up a word about The Word to my congregation. Reading these sermons was an act of *lectio divina* for me, or slow divine or meditative reading. . . . If you are a pastor and in need of some inspiration or a serious Christian who likes to read and reflect upon Scripture then look no further than *Sermons From the National Cathedral*. You won't be disappointed. (Walking with God) Lloyd's style is marked by clarity of exposition, tight writing, only enough quotations to suddenly arouse interest, and topicality without the subjects becoming quickly out of date. These are well-crafted works that deserve repeated reading in whole or in part, as can serve as meditations for daily prayer. . . . In rereading the sermons it is possible to savor Lloyd's considerable skills as an expository writer. (Anglican and Episcopal History) This collection of Samuel T. Lloyd III's sermons from the National Cathedral provide a clear voice of a generous-spirited Christianity (immediate and accessible) which is deeply needed in this new century. He sees the heart of the gospel as the gift and call to be fully human and he preaches not only with grace, but with a canny sense of the struggles of the age. His is a stealth radicalism of compassion, which comes in under the radar, often catching the reader unawares with its clarity and challenge, with its bite and risk. These sermons are the product of a literary and generous imagination combining intellectual rigor with simple charity in assuring his readers of the abiding goodness at the heart of things. It's as if he's saying over and over again, Don't lose heart! Good news in a time when the heart seems to have been knocked out of things. And what is at the heart of these sermons? A sense of the sacred, and affirmation of the holy, an affirmation of hope in a time when many fear, with the poet Philip Larkin, that, in the end, there is no sight, no sound, no touch or taste or smell, nothing to think with, nothing to love or link with. Lloyd preaches Good news. (Alan W. Jones, Dean Emeritus, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco; author of *Soul Making*) Even though they were delivered from the lofty pulpit at the National Cathedral, these sermons land squarely at our feet precisely where the "rubber meets the road." They are biblically based, intellectually exciting and spiritually alive and send us on our way with new vision and hope. (Tim Johnson, M.D., Senior Medical Contributor, ABC News; author of *Finding God in the Questions*) In this compelling and delightful book, Samuel T. Lloyd III has given the world an extraordinary gift. Lloyd is probably the finest preacher in the Episcopal Church; and in this book, we are provided with a faithful, generous, thoughtful account of the Christian drama. Be prepared to cry, think, and laugh. Lloyd is not simply a careful reader of Scripture, but he

connects Scripture with a wider canon of literature and art. You don't simply read this book, you study it and allow it to make a real difference to way you look at the world. (The Very Rev. Dr. Ian Markham, dean and president of Virginia Theological Seminary)Samuel Lloyd's sermons provide rich fare for hungry souls, and they bear repeated reading and reflection. Drawing frequently from the world of literature, Lloyd deftly invites his hearers to explore the vagaries of the human spirit as it encounters and is overtaken by the Divine. God's ways with us are such that the most ordinary and seemingly unexceptional can become the means of revelation. (The Right Rev. Frank T. Griswold, XXV Former Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church)These sermons preached by Samuel Lloyd from the Canterbury pulpit of the National Cathedral encourage in us all a love for the Gospels and help us to find Jesus in a multitude of different situations in daily life. The illustrations which Sam uses to preach profound and challenging truths are endlessly imaginative and drawn from his great love of literature and also quarried from his own journey of faith. This book will be helpful alike to those who read it and to those of us who, like Lloyd, preach the word of God to others. (The Very Rev. Dr. Robert Willis, DL, Dean of Canterbury)The Very Reverend Samuel Lloyd III is a stunningly gifted teacher and preacher. Powerful, relevant and immensely thought-provoking, Sermons from the National Cathedral reminds us that the basic tenets of faith, love, acceptance, compassion, respect and forgiveness have always been, and will continue to be, the means by which mankind can face even its darkest challenges. Sermons from the National Cathedral inspires, illuminates and leads the reader to a life of higher purpose and to a mission of more devoted spiritual understanding. (Sharon Percy Rockefeller, President and Chief Executive Officer, WETA TV/FM)About the AuthorSamuel T. Lloyd III is a priest of the Episcopal Church in the United States who served as the ninth Dean of the Washington National Cathedral, having been installed there on April 23, 2005, and serving until September 18, 2011. Before his tenure as Dean, Samuel Lloyd previously served as rector of historic Trinity Church, Copley Square in Boston, Massachusetts, one of the largest Episcopal congregations in the United States. He returned to Trinity after leaving the National Cathedral. Lloyd has taught in seminaries and has frequently spoken at conferences and conventions. He has preached on the Protestant Hour on radio and offered courses in the area of Christianity and literature, including Flannery O'Connor, Dante, contemporary fiction, C. S. Lewis, and the parables. He served as a regent of the University of the South. His writing and reviews have been published by the Sewanee Theological , Forward Movement, Anglican Digest, and Journal of Religion, among others.