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Foreword

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Foreword

For more than two decades, each fall, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary has hosted a lecture series called the Lutheran Life Lectures. The aim of this series is to bring in notable scholars from various theological disciplines who will provide fresh, stimulating insights for those who attend the lectures. This lecture series has been a significant success over the years, generating memorable presentations and lively discussions.

However, time and geography have not always permitted all who might want to attend the Lutheran Life Lectures to be present. This unfortunate circumstance has prompted a number of requests to make some of the recent Lutheran Life lectures at Waterloo more accessible to a wider audience. As a consequence, the focus of the featured articles of this issue of *Consensus* will be on the last four Lutheran Life Lecture presentations. These were presentations done in 1998 by Jean Bethke Elshtain, in 1999 by David G. Buttrick, in 2000 by Robert Farrar Capon, and in 2001 by Marty Haugen.

In reading these presentations the reader should note that in all cases, save that of David Buttrick, the texts provided in this issue are transcriptions from audio tapes. Nevertheless, every effort has been made to convey faithfully what was recorded on the tapes, editing the text only for grammatical clarity. In light of this, however, two things need to be acknowledged. First, the fact that the articles here are transcriptions means that footnote/endnote references were generally not provided and so do not appear. Second, because these articles are transcriptions, they embody a more conversational style than one might find in an article only prepared as a written text. Allow me now to provide a brief introduction to each of the presenters.

Jean Bethke Elshtain is a political philosopher who sees her task as showing the connections between our political and ethical convictions. She is a noted speaker and teacher, and is the author of ten books as well as hundreds of articles dealing with political thought, the roles of women and men in contemporary society, the family, and “just war” theory. Her books include *Democracy on Trial*, *Public Man*, *Private Woman*, *New Wine and Old Bottles*, and her most recent work *Who Are We?* A graduate of Brandeis University, Professor Elshtain taught at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and at Vanderbilt University (Nashville) before coming to the University of Chicago where she is

currently the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics. A Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Professor Elshain delivered the 1993 CBC Massey Lectures.

David G. Buttrick is the Drucilla Moore Buffington Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics at the Vanderbilt University Divinity School. He is a sought-after speaker who has over the years made presentations at more than 80 colleges and universities as well as addressing numerous church assemblies in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Europe. Professor Buttrick is a prolific author, having written or edited 13 books and more than 150 articles and reviews. Of particular note are his books *Homiletic* and *The Captive Voice*. He received his B.A. degree from Haverford College and his B.D. from Union Theological Seminary in New York. He has done further doctoral study in theology and literary criticism. Professor Buttrick has been a consultant on worship to several Protestant denominations. He has also served on the National Conference of Catholic Bishops ad hoc committee on the homily. Professor Buttrick's research interests are in homiletic theory, the theology of the word and sacrament, and practical hermeneutics.

Robert Farrar Capon is a renowned theologian and biblical scholar with a passionate concern for the Gospel. Father Capon has served as an Episcopal parish priest, a professor of theology and Greek, a seminary dean, a teacher of cooking, and a freelance food writer for the *New York Times*, *Newsday*, and many other magazines. He is the author of 25 books, including works of theology, several novels and four cookbooks. Among his numerous well-known books are: *The Supper of the Lamb*, *Hunting the Divine Fox*, *The Parables of the Kingdom*, *The Parables of Grace*, *The Parables of Judgment*, and his most recent work entitled *The Fingerprints of God*. A popular preacher and lecturer, Father Capon has been enthusiastically received by audiences for over twenty years. He is known especially for his ability to relate the Gospel message to daily life, as well as for his keen wit and sense of humour.

Marty Haugen is an outstanding speaker who combines expertise in worship music with valuable insight into the life and ministry of the church today. He is a well-known liturgical composer, performing and recording artist, and author. For the past twenty years, Marty Haugen has presented hundreds of workshops and concerts across North and Central America, Europe, Asia, and the Pacific Rim. He has over 30 recordings and more than 400 separate printed editions of music for worship, including such songs as *Canticle of the Sun*, *Eye Has Not*

Seen, Gather Us In, Mass of Creation, and Shepherd Me. Marty Haugen has composed a number of Eucharistic settings for Lutheran congregations. These include *Now the Feast and Celebration, Tree of Life, and Holden Evening Prayer.* He has been a contributor to hymnals or hymnal supplements for many denominational groups. Marty Haugen currently serves as composer-in-residence at Mayflower United Church of Christ in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

It is my hope that you the reader will enjoy and be as stimulated by these four presentations as were the people who initially heard them.

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