Growing up as a young fundamentalist, I memorized a lot of verses from the Gospel of John. And I was sure I knew what those verses meant. I got older and began to question a lot of what I had been taught, especially when I began to preach from John and was forced to read the text—the whole text—closely. What I needed back then was exactly what Karoline Lewis has provided in her new commentary: an honest, intelligent engagement with the Fourth Gospel. If you want commentary on others’ commentary on John, go elsewhere. But if you want thoughtful, thorough, and practical help in grappling with the content and meaning of John’s gospel for people today, be sure this commentary is open on your desk. I learned a lot and had several long-standing questions answered.

—Brian D. McLaren
Author and Speaker

This excellent commentary on John rests on a mountain of solid scholarship. Karoline Lewis does not direct her gaze only downward to the text, however, but outward to the church. She stands on the crest of her exegetical wisdom and tells her readers what the Gospel of John enables her, and all of us, to see—about the identity of Jesus, the power of the gospel, and the claim of both on human life. The theological vistas in this volume are breathtaking, and the insights for preaching are stunning.

—Thomas G. Long
Candler School of Theology, Emory University

There is a kind of common agreement that commentaries are not meant to be exciting reading. Lewis’s John not only breaks that premise, it shatters it. John, in Lewis’s hands, becomes a writer of great skill and subtlety, one whose Jesus is more direct and powerful and complete than I, at least, had ever perceived before. This book, which is filled with wit and sharp insights and brilliant turns of phrasing, should be in the hands of every lay Christian, as well as in those of the ordained. Here is a John most of us have not seen before and, as a result, a Jesus whom many of us have also never before been led to fathom.

—Phyllis Tickle

In this innovative approach to the Gospel of John, Lewis acts as curator of texts, placing and layering them against one another in unexpected ways, so that we are constantly astonished at how many fresh insights can and do emerge from such familiar stories. A brilliant and original book, drenched in wisdom.

—Anna Carter Florence
Columbia Theological Seminary

There are many books on preaching John, but Lewis offers something different: John read thoroughly and intentionally through the lens of the preacher. The goal of this approach is not simply to improve sermons on John, but rather to allow a guided encounter with the theological world of the Gospel of John to reshape how we understand the very work of preaching.

—Gail R. O’Day
Wake Forest University School of Divinity