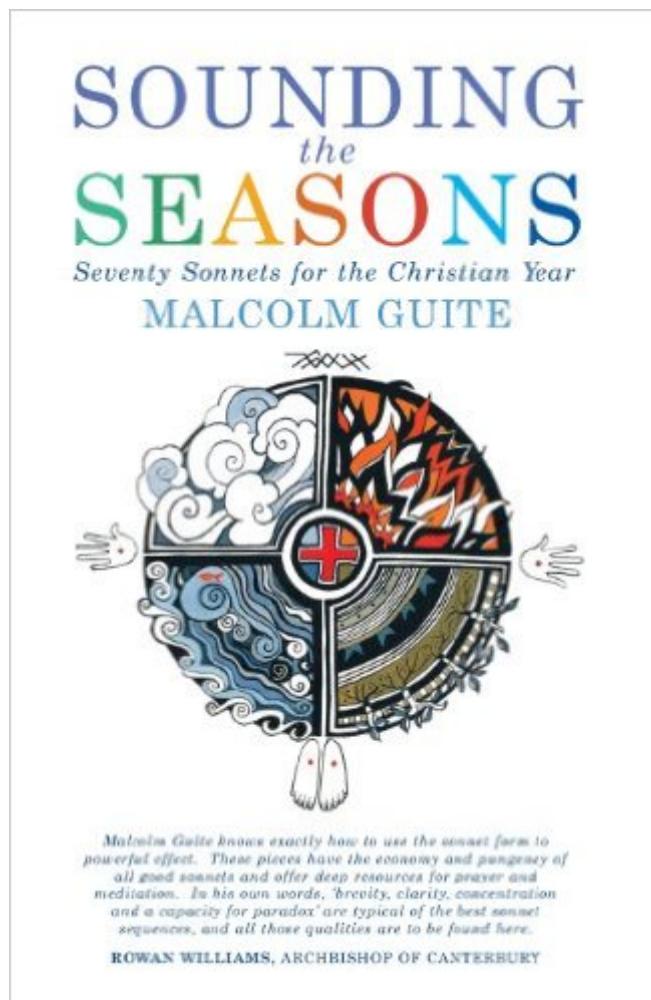


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Sounding The Seasons: Seventy Sonnets For Christian Year



Synopsis

Poetry has always been a central element of Christian spirituality and is increasingly used in worship, in pastoral services and guided meditation. In *Sounding the Seasons*, Cambridge poet, priest and singer-songwriter Malcolm Guite transforms seventy lectionary readings into lucid, inspiring poems, for use in regular worship, seasonal services, meditative reading or on retreat. Already widely recognised, Malcolm's writing has been acclaimed by Rowan Williams and Luci Shaw, two leading contemporary religious poets. Seven Advent poems from this collection will appear in the next edition of Penguin's (US) *Best Spiritual Writing* edited by Philip Zaleski, alongside the work of writers such as Seamus Heaney and Annie Dillard. A section of practical help and advice for using poetry creatively and effectively in worship is also included.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are not already familiar with Malcolm Guite, let me offer you an introduction. By his own description, Malcolm is a poet, priest and singer-songwriter. He is Chaplain of Girton College and Associate Chaplain of St Edward King and Martyr in Cambridge. He is the author of several highly praised books, including the superb volume *Faith, Hope and Poetry*, contributor to *The Cambridge Companion to C.S. Lewis*, and host of a marvelous website. His newest publication is *Sounding the Seasons - Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year*. Advance comments for *Sounding the Seasons* have included commendations from Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury who says "Malcolm Guite knows exactly how to use the sonnet form to powerful effect. These pieces have the

economy and pungency of all good sonnets and offer deep resources for prayer and meditation. In his own words, 'brevity, clarity, concentration and a capacity for paradox' are typical of the best sonnet sequences, and all those qualities are to be found here." Luci Shaw, Author of Harvesting Fog - New Poems, Breath for the Bones; Imagination Art and Spirit, says "Each of Malcolm Guite's sonnets is like a Celtic Knot, with threads of devotion and theology cunningly woven into shining emblems of truth and beauty. Whether spoken aloud or read silently, these poems speak to mind and soul." What I can say of Malcolm Guite's work is simply this. He writes with a sublime entwining of what is ethereal and what is sensual to our natures, masterfully combining the vulnerability of the human condition with the essences of all that call us upward. In every word there is a sense of shared suffering, struggle, hope, and joy. He writes as the common man with an uncommon grace.

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