



## **A Life Well Lived: Bishop John Shelby Spong by Rev. Dawn Hutchings**

After 90 years of living fully, loving wastefully, and being all that he could be Bishop John Shelby Spong died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday September 12, 2021. A giant of a man in more ways than one, Jack's towering presence will continue to live in the lives of the millions of people he blessed with his presence.

The Holy Cross community is indebted to Jack for his wisdom, generosity, and kindness. We were blessed to welcome Jack to our small congregation three times. During his visits with us Jack and his beloved Christine became fast friends.

Jack heralded Holy Cross as "the jewel of the North!" We at Holy Cross will continue to herald Jack as a beloved friend and teacher. Thanks be to ALL that IS HOLY for a life well lived!

Personally, Jack's influence on my life began long before I ever entertained the possibility of attending seminary. His book "Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism" helped me to stay in the church. Over the decades, Jack's work nourished, grounded and sustained me in my work. His friendship is a blessing I shall always treasure!

[The video](#) was recorded on a beautiful Sunday morning in May of 2011. The sermon was the icing on the cake of a weekend filled with Jack's characteristic wit and wisdom.



~ Rev. Dawn Hutchings, Pastor  
[Holy Cross Lutheran Church](#)