



# St. John's Lutheran Church

B3750 State Hwy 13, Spencer, WI 54479

[www.stjohnsspencer.com](http://www.stjohnsspencer.com)

715-659-5158

**God said it, I believe it,  
that settles it**

**Prayer for this week:** Lord of life, through the pages of scripture you speak to us and make your story our story. Open the pages once again, that we may see ourselves as your people, living in your love and life. Amen.

## Daily Bible Readings

Day 1: Hebrews 3:7 and 4:12-16

Day 2: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Day 3: John 21:24-25

Day 4: Colossians 3:15-17

Day 5: Matthew 4:3-5

Day 6: Psalm 119:105

Day 7: Isaiah 40:7-9

## God Didn't Say That! Clichés & 1/2 Truths

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian – like something you might even find in the Bible: We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of truth – yet they also miss the point in very important ways. Join us as we look at these common clichés and discover God didn't say that.

8/28 God won't give you more than you can handle

9/4 Love the sinner hate the sin

### Theme: The Bible says it. I believe it. That settles it?

We love certainly; black and white. But the scriptures are full of contradiction and paradox. A simple slogan can't describe how God works. We believe that scripture is the living witness of God's people throughout the ages, a living word through which God speaks in fresh ways to people of all generations. Even this one.

INSTEAD:

Let's talk together about what we hear God saying through the Bible.

## Talk It Over

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your family turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Use the following questions to begin your conversation:

- What is the nature of the Bible? How do you see it? Is it a book that fell from heaven, straight out of God's word processor? Did God dictate it to human scribes? Or is it human creation, and little more than fairy tales?
- And how should we read this book? Literally, like a newspaper? Figuratively, like a poem? History? Metaphor? Both? Neither?
- Does God still speak to us today, or are these words simply old? How do you feel about God speaking today? Can God use old words in new circumstances, with new people?
- Would you rather have the Bible be black and white, a clear and precise set of rules and expectations? Or are you willing to wrestle with complexities? Do the complexities alarm or excite you?

### For Further Study

If you'd like to investigate more, check out these articles by Dr. David Lose or read his book "Making Sense of Scripture".

Whether you agree with them or not, practice talking about the issues they raise:

[www.davidlose.net/2012/06/four-good-reasons-not-to-read-the-bible-literally/](http://www.davidlose.net/2012/06/four-good-reasons-not-to-read-the-bible-literally/)

[www.davidlose.net/2012/07/the-bible-offers-a-bigger-kind-of-truth/](http://www.davidlose.net/2012/07/the-bible-offers-a-bigger-kind-of-truth/)

[www.patheos.com/blogs/kimberlyknight/2012/12/gods-teachings-are-clear-that/](http://www.patheos.com/blogs/kimberlyknight/2012/12/gods-teachings-are-clear-that/)

*Spencer's Mission is to Live daily in God's grace, Grow in our discipleship, Share Christ with all*

**COME** help is needed for this Tuesday, sign up on bulletin board.

**Backpack Blessing** Aug. 28, 9 am

**New Spencer Photo Directory** happening soon, schedule your session from the church website.

**August Mission Project** is school kits for Lutheran World Relief—notebooks, scissors, crayons, etc.

**Life is \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Study** begins Sept. 11, 9 am. Contact Cindy Weiler 715-252-3422 for info.

**Financial Peace University** class begins Sept. 21, 6:30 pm. Sign up on church website or contact church office.

**Online giving** now accepts debit and credit cards. Check it out.

**Riplinger Potluck** Sept. 18 following worship. Hope everyone can come!

**Lutheran Men in Mission Retreat—One Year to Live** Sept. 16-18, brochures on bulletin board.

**Aging & Disability** Living Actively & Staying In Your Home Longer – Senior Health Fair will be held on Friday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup> at the Jr. Fair Expo Building at the Marshfield fairgrounds from 9:30 a.m. – Noon. There will be a speaker on Fraud Prevention. See poster in lobby for more info.

### **LIFTING UP IN PRAYER**

Rhonda Marcott, Dyllan Griepentrog, Val Bychinski, John Ovans, Karen Larson (Nancy Dietsche's sister), Doug Oelrich, Jeff Day, Gail Jicinsky, Linda Wunrow, Darlene Dommer, Jon Soderberg, Audrey Heldt, Art Halverson, Cathy & Jessica Buss

### **Serving Today**

#### **9:00 am Spencer**

Greeter: Theresa Kenyon  
Tech: Allen Jicinsky  
Sound: Dennis Kopp  
Assisting Minister: Mikayla Kopp  
Ushers: Jan Ammons, Ed Bruger  
Reader: Janell Kopp  
Communion: Penni Cloud,  
Inez Fosberg  
Acolyte: Leah Nieman  
Basket bearer: Bridget Cloud  
Hospitality: Neil Schauer  
Counters: Teri Schorer,  
Paul Christopherson, Jerry Marden

#### **11:00 am Riplinger**

Reader: Dorene Newman  
Counters: Joy Miller  
Wayne Hendrickson

### **Next Sunday, August 28**

#### **9:00 am Spencer**

Greeter: Jesse Klement  
Tech: Tracey Ackman  
Sound: Nadine Willett  
Assisting Minister: Janell Kopp  
Ushers: Travis Hardrath  
Milt Viergutz  
Reader: Jim Christopherson  
Communion: Jesse Klement,  
Teri Schorer  
Acolyte: Brooke Suckow  
Basket bearer: Ryan Hardrath  
Hospitality: Pam Hardrath  
Counters: Brandon Kopp,  
Teri Schorer, Wayne Hagen

#### **11:00 am Riplinger**

Reader: Deana Parker  
Counters: John Meacham  
Scott Parker

### **THIS WEEK**

#### SUNDAY

9:00 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger

#### MONDAY

6:15 PM Yoga

#### TUESDAY

7:30 AM Fit Club  
5:00 PM COME meal

#### WEDNESDAY

#### THURSDAY

#### FRIDAY

Pastor's Day off

#### SATURDAY

#### SUNDAY

9:00 AM Worship w/Baptism  
& Backpack blessing  
11:00 AM Worship at Riplinger  
6:00 PM Cub Scout Parent/Leader  
Meeting

#### MONDAY

6:15 PM Yoga

### **STAFF**

Rev. Rebekah Tarras, pastor  
Office: 715-659-5158  
Cell: 715-897-5393  
Email: [sjlcpastor@frontier.com](mailto:sjlcpastor@frontier.com)

Jenny Nieman, secretary and  
faith development director  
Office: 715-659-5158  
Email: [sjlcoffice@frontier.com](mailto:sjlcoffice@frontier.com)