

WORSHIP GUIDE
order of worship

Sanctuary Service **April 19, 2009**
Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church

Call to Worship *All People of God* Choir

Apostles Creed Suzie Beeson

Hymn *Crown Him With Many Crowns* Congregation

Special Music (9:30 & 11) *It All Comes Back to God* K-2nd Grade Choir
I Love Living in the Love of the Lord

Special Music *Holy is the Lord* Choir

Pastoral Prayer Rev. John Schmidt

Baptism (8 & 11)

Hymn #601 *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet* Congregation

Special Music *It is Well* Good News Singers

Registration & Offertory Suzie Beeson

Offertory *We Shall Behold Him* Wilburn Ingram

Sermon: Rev. John Schmidt

CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE?

Hymn #529 *How Firm a Foundation* Congregation

Benediction

Flowers are placed in loving memory of Jim Douberley by his wife Carol.

Acolytes serving in the Sanctuary this week: Joy Atkinson and Ashley Warden at 9:30 a.m. and Lindsey Ferraro and Carol Thompson at 11 a.m.

Dear God...

Can I trust the Bible?

1. The Bible is a collection of 66 books written by 40 different God-inspired authors over a period of 1,500 years.

a. Inspired means “God-breathed.”

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT)

“Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet’s own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.”
(2 Peter 1:20-21 NLT)

b. The biblical authors were from diverse backgrounds, occupations, nationalities, and historical eras yet their messages agree. They included kings, fishermen, shepherds, prophets, a tax collector, a doctor, and a Jewish scholar named Paul.

2. The Bible was written so that we might believe in God, know Him, and understand His wonderful plan for us.

“We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.” (1 John 1:3-4 NLT)

“The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.” (John 20:30-31 NLT)

“Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write a careful account for you, most honorable Theophilus, so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught.”
(Luke 1:1-4 NLT)

3. The Bible is reliable and trustworthy.

a. Jesus trusted the Bible and viewed it as authoritative.

“...the Scripture cannot be broken...” (John 10:35 NIV)

“Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God’s law will disappear until its purpose is achieved.”
(Matthew 5:17-18 NLT)

- b. The Disciples and other early Christians trusted the Bible and viewed it as authoritative.

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” (Romans 15:4 NIV)

“...as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.” (2 Peter 3:15-16 NIV)

- c. The people and places mentioned in the Bible are real historical figures and locations.

“At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David’s ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee.” (Luke 2:1-4 NLT)

- d. The Bible contains a remarkable number of fulfilled prophecies regarding the Messiah, historical events, and the Jewish people.

“For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me. Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.” (Isaiah 46:9-10 NLT)

- e. The Bible changes people.

“For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.” (Hebrews 4:12 NLT)

“So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls. But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don’t forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.” (James 1:21-25 NLT)

Rev. John Schmidt | john@frazerumc.org | April 19, 2009

Want to watch or hear the sermon again? Pick up a CD at the Welcome Desk in the Atrium, watch online at frazerumc.org/media, or download the Podcast at frazerumc.org/podcast.