

May 24

**Welcome** Pastor George Reynolds

**Prayer - Carter Eck**

Father God, you have searched us and known us. You know when we lie down and when we rise up; you discern our thoughts from far away. You, O God, formed our inward parts, you knit us together in our mother's womb. We praise you, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made!

Jesus, you came into the world as the Word made flesh and dwelt among us, a constant and abiding reminder that God is always with us, even to the ends of the earth. Jesus, you are the light that has shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Holy Spirit: Where can we go that you are not with us? If we ascend to heaven, you are there. If we make our bed in the depths, you are there. If we perceive the darkness overwhelming us, we know that even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. You hem us in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon us.

May these reminders from scripture, encourage us today, inspire us for tomorrow, and carry us forever into our life, now and forever. Amen.

**Hymn Be Thou My Vision UMH #451**

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art--  
Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

3 Great God of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's  
Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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## **UPDATE Moment**

### **Vision Statement**

**We are a community of faith, being transformed by God's grace,  
inspiring people to become disciples of Jesus.**

**Special Music** – For Spacious Skies – Matt Estep and Jen Cather

## **Prayer**

**Scripture – Jaxon Eck – Number 13:26-32**



Minority Report

Pastor George Reynolds

Number 13:26-32 Jaxon Eck

**Everyone has an opinion... on everything.**

It can even be disorienting when we hear everyone telling us that they're right and everyone else is wrong.

It can be really disorienting when you find yourself in the minority.

**How do we maintain our faith in God when fear, the unknown, and the opinions of others are leading us to go back rather than move ahead in faith?**

**QUESTION: What emotions do you experience just before you arrive at your destination?**

When this journey began, they really didn't know who God was, or what God could do. God wanted to give them time to learn about who God is and what this relationship with God meant for his chosen people.

**God knows that faith and trust are developed through time and experience.**

But from the response of the people you'd think they hadn't come through a wilderness experience in which God acted on their behalf! All they could see were giants and well protected cities.

**Do you know a Caleb?**

No mountain too big to climb, no giant too powerful to defeat, no challenge that can't be overcome!

I'm glad God makes Calebs! Bold, decisive leaders who have the faith, vision and determination to inspire confidence regardless of the size of the challenge.

What makes Caleb and Joshua issue this minority report?

**Instead of living in fear of the enemy, they lived by faith in God.**

The ten spies only saw the challenges, while Joshua and Caleb saw the God who was with them.

Joshua and Caleb maintained their faith in God when fear, the unknown, and the opinions of others were leading the charge to go back, rather than move ahead in faith?

So how about you?

Are you **living in fear** of your enemies/challenges, or are you **living by faith** in God?

Or, are you allowing the majority to discourage your faithful response to God's opportunity?

**There are a lot of UNCONQUERED Promised Lands and too many OVERCROWDED 'Egypts'**

We're on the verge of the Promised Land. God's blessings await!

We can either...

Go back in fear and die in the desert

Or,

We can step by faith into the Promised Land and see the power of God at work.

### **Living Hope**

How great the chasm that lay  
between us  
How high the mountain I could not  
climb  
In desperation, I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the  
night  
Then through the darkness, Your  
loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my

soul  
The work is finished, the end is  
written  
Jesus Christ, my living hope  
Who could imagine so great a  
mercy?  
What heart could fathom such  
boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down

from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my  
shame  
The cross has spoken, I am  
forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His  
own  
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ, my living hope  
  
Hallelujah, praise the One who set  
me free  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip  
on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope  
  
Then came the morning that  
sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to  
breathe  
Out of the silence, the Roaring  
Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim  
on me  
Then came the morning that  
sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to  
breathe

Out of the silence, the Roaring  
Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim  
on me  
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Hallelujah, praise the One who set  
me free  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip  
on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the One who set  
me free  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip  
on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Jesus Christ, my living hope  
Oh God, You are my living hope

Songwriters: Phil Wickham / Brian Mark Johnson  
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## **Benediction**