



Transfigured

Feb 15, 2026

<https://zoom.us/j/716026467>

Call in 669-900-9128

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<u>GREETER</u>	Carolyn Noble
<u>CHILDCARE</u>	Catherine Kessler

Land Acknowledgement: We gather today on the unceded homelands of the Ohlone and the Chochenyo-speaking Ohlone peoples. Let us strive to honor all indigenous peoples by joining their efforts to pursue justice and care for this land.

RINGING OF THE BELL: Rod Repke

PRELUDE:

"Adoration" — Florence Price
Rob Finucane, piano

WELCOME & PASSING THE PEACE

[Visitor form, Prayer requests, Comments](#)

If you are visiting this morning, we are so glad you are here! We hope you'll join us for friendship time after worship. Tell us about yourself or sign up for our mailing list by filling out a Virtual Connect Card.

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Once there was a people just out of bondage

People: They stood at the foot of a mountain with dust on their ankles

Leader: Once there was a man who ran for his life up a mountain

People: He found a cave and wished he could die

Leader: Once there was a rabbi who took his friends hiking

People: They climbed until their arguments fell behind them

Leader: Today we climb with them

All: We climb to see what they saw

OPENING HYMN:

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding (NCH #182)
(verses 1 and 2)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Holy One, we come as climbers. Some of us are tired. Some of us didn't choose this mountain. Some of us don't know what we're looking for at the top. But we come. Together. Companions on the journey. Guide our feet. Open our eyes. Prepare our hearts for whatever we will see. Amen.

ANTHEM:

"Go Down, Moses" — arr. Russell Robinson

Skyline Choir; Edward Nunoo, conductor
 Rob Finucane, piano

Refrain:

Go down, Moses,

Way down in Egypt's land;

Tell old Pharaoh To let My people go!

MOMENT FOR HERITAGE:

Martin Luther King Jr.'s final "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech:

"Well, I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life... But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. **And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land."

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on the night before his death, said, 'I've been to the mountaintop... I've seen the promised land... I may not get there with you, but we, as a people, will get to the promised land.'"

SCRIPTURE READING:

Exodus 24:12–18 (New International Version)
The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction."

Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them."

When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Matthew 17:1-9 NRSV (The Transfiguration)

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters — one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

MUSIC FOR PREPARATION:

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" (Instrumental)
Rob Finucane, piano

SERMON: THE MOUNTAIN JOURNEY

SERMON RESPONSE [First: 60 seconds of silence]

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" (Instrumental)
Rob Finucane, piano

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

All: Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY:

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" - arr. Edward Nunoo

Edward Nunoo, bass & Rob Finucane, piano

Offertory prayer: In the spirit of the ancestors who walked before us, we offer our lives and resources as tools for justice.

skyline.churchtrac.com. Friends may make credit card contributions through Stripe at skylineucc.org/give (preferred) or at paypal.me/skylinechurch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SURVEY - WHAT MAKES YOU COME ALIVE?

Volunteer

skylineucc.org/news

<https://skylineucc.org/events>

<https://skylineucc.org/subscribe>

<https://skylineucc.org/newsletter-submission>

CLOSING HYMN:

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder (NCH #500)
(all three verses)

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder
(Instrumental Improv)

A Thank You To Our February Volunteers!

Thank you for your faithful service that brings our Sunday gatherings to life. Your generosity creates the space where we truly meet one another.

All, please review the schedule below and consider where **your** gifts may enhance our church's services. Email office@skylineucc.org **Volunteer Schedule 2025-2026**

DATE	Liturgist	Zoom Host	GREETER*	USHER **	Hospitality (food & drink)	Guest preachers
2/15/2026	Rob Repke	Abby Givler	Carolyn Noble	Sheila Helm	Carolyn Noble	
2/22/2026	Michael Armijo	Abby Givler	Carolyn Noble	Sheila Helm		
3/1/2026	Jim Schubert	Abby Givler		Sheila Helm		

*Greeter: Welcome visitors; collect contact information; invite to fellowship after service; introduce to others

**Usher: Distribute Bulletins, Hymnals/Music Booklets per the day's Bulletin; collect offerings; help with communion.

Upcoming Events – Ways to Stay Connected:

Weekly Gatherings

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/716026467>

- Tuesdays @ 10: 30 AM – Bible Study
- Wed @ 7 pm - Thurman study, Jesus & the Disinherited
- Fridays @ 1:00 PM – Prayer and Care Group (Leader: **Pastor Laurie**)

In-Person:

- Sundays @ 8:45 AM – Choir Practice – All are welcome!

Regular Meetings:

- Twice monthly @ 1:00 PM – Staff Meeting (Next: Feb 20, 2026)
- Third Thursdays @ 6:00 PM – Council Meeting on Zoom

NEW EVENTS: “What makes you come alive?”

“Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” — Howard Thurman

Becoming Human: A Season of Practice This Lenten season, we move beyond "believing harder" and into the transformative work of living more honestly. Inspired by the wisdom of Howard Thurman, our series explores attention, resilience, and the "quiet center" within us.

HIGHLIGHTS:

New Sermon Series: Becoming Human (Feb 8 through Easter April 5) Influenced by the wisdom of **Howard Thurman**, this series explores what it means to live a grounded life in anxious times. We'll look at attention, limits, and resilience through the lens of Gospel stories, psychology, and neuroscience. These aren't sermons about "believing harder"—they are about learning how to live more honestly and gently in the world we're in.

Lenten Practice Group: *Jesus and the Disinherited* (Wednesdays, orientation starting Feb 18, 7 pm zoom) In a time of deep division, Howard Thurman's classic remains a vital roadmap for spiritual and social survival. We will explore how Thurman's vision of dignity, resistance, and love helps us navigate the modern world with our humanity intact.

Black History Film Festival: Sat, Feb 21 12:30 - 2:30 pm. A unique afternoon in West Oakland featuring local films, *The Spirit We Move With* (Gullah Geechee culture) and *A New Day Begun* (The Black National Anthem).

Burned Out? A Sunset Reset in the Redwoods: Sunday, February 22 | 5:00–6:30 PM *Skyline Sanctuary & Labyrinth*

If you're tired, overwhelmed, or running on fumes, you're not broken—you're living in a world that never stops. This low-pressure evening is designed to help your nervous system breathe, grounded in the **wisdom of Howard Thurman**, who taught that "there is a quiet place in the heart where the spirit of God resides."

The evening includes:

- **The Quiet Center:** A guided reflection on Thurman's invitation to find the "centering moment" amidst life's storms.
- **Sacred Movement:** A labyrinth walk and gentle yoga/Tai Chi among the redwoods.
- **The Sunset Close:** Music and silence as the day ends, followed by an optional community potluck.

- *No experience needed. Nothing to believe. Just a chance to step out of the noise and reconnect with your "inner light."*

Special Events – Mark Your Calendars:

Date	Event	Location
Sun, Feb 15	Inquirers Hike - weather permitting after worship	Meet at Church, hike at Trudeau Center off Skyline
Wed, Feb 18- Wed- March	Book study: <i>Jesus and the Disinherited</i> -Howard Thurman	7-8 pm -Zoom, (18th is orientation)
Sun, Feb 22	The Sunset Reset: Sanctuary in the Redwoods (5:00–6:30 PM) - yoga, tai chi, meditation, brief reflections, sound healing	Skyline Sanctuary & Labyrinth, led by Pastor Laurie
Fri, March 13 2nd Fridays	Film Fridays: Movie & Potluck: topic TBD	5-6:30 pm
Sun, March 22	The Sunset Reset: Sanctuary in the Redwoods : Vernal Equinox (5-7 PM), with Pastor Laurie and Diana Bitting https://www.catbirdclub.com	Skyline Sanctuary & Labyrinth

Skyline's Future in Focus- Worship

At our visioning retreat, we identified four areas of focus for Skyline's future:

1. Inspired by the Way of Jesus: Deepening our relationship with God.
2. God's Prophetic Inclusion: Creating welcoming spaces and justice-centered connections.
3. Invitation to Deeper Faith: Providing welcome and respite as a spiritual sanctuary.
4. Stewardship of God's Gifts: Committing to green ecology and environmental mission.

I need to know how to make these priorities real—and what to stop doing so we have room to do them well. This takes 2-3 minutes. Be honest. Your answers help me lead us toward the sanctuary we are trying to create.

1. SUNDAY WORSHIP: The Core Experience

Worship is the one place where all four areas of focus meet. Based on our retreat priorities, how should Sunday morning evolve?

Which 2 changes would make Sunday worship more meaningful for you?

- [] More Respite: Integrated silence and contemplative space (Retreat Priority: 21 votes ★)
- [] More Stewardship: Nature-based elements or creation-centered theology (15 votes ★)
- [] More Inclusion: Interactive/participatory elements and post-worship discussion (9 votes)
- [] More Inspiration: More music and sung worship (8 votes)
- [] Alternative Formats: Different times or outdoor settings.

3. THE STRATEGIC PRUNE IN WORSHIP:

What could Skyline stop doing (or do less of) to create breathing room for our four priorities?

What is the #1 barrier getting in the way of your participation? (Name optional)