



Earth SUNDAY,

Were not our Hearts Burning?

APRIL 19, 2026

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

Call in 669-900-9128

PASTOR	Rev Laurie Manning
LITURGIST	Michael Armijo
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Edward Nunoo
ACCOMPANIST	Rob Finucane
ZOOM HOST	Abby Givler
HOSPITALITY	Carolyn Noble
USHERS	Sheila Helms
GREETER	Carolyn Noble
CHILDCARE	Catherine Kessler

RINGING OF THE BELL: Rod Repke

PRELUDE: Earth Sounds

Land Acknowledgement: We gather today on the unceded homelands of the Ohlone and the Chochochenyo-speaking Ohlone peoples. We honor their stewardship of this ridge and commit to joining their efforts to care for this land.

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: We come to worship on a road, not a throne room.

People: We walk this earth as guests, as kin, as those who belong to it.

Leader: The risen Christ met two friends on an ordinary road —

People: Not in a cathedral, not behind locked doors, but walking.

Leader: Their eyes were kept from seeing. Their hearts were burning without knowing why.

People: How often are our hearts burning, and we do not recognize what we carry?

Leader: This Earth Sunday, we open our eyes.

People: To the road beneath our feet. To the stranger beside us. To the bread in our hands.

Leader: Come. Walk with us.

All: We walk. We watch. We will not look away. Amen.

Opening Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth" (NCH #28 · vs. 1, 2 and 4)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

God of the road and the table, of soil and seed and smoke-filled sky — we gather on this Earth Sunday with burning hearts we do not always know how to name. We have grieved. We have organized. We have testified and marched and showed up again. And still you meet us on the road, unrecognized, walking beside us. Open our eyes today. Open them to the earth that holds us, to the stranger who walks with us, to the bread that breaks us open. Amen.

II. The JOURNEY - WALKING THE ROAD *A Scientific Reflection*

Interdependence is not a sentimental wish; it is a mechanical fact. It is written into the cycles that sustain us. Every atom in your

body was once forged in a star. The breath you take is a gift from the redwoods. We are not alone. We are woven into the web.

Community Chant:

“In The Bulb There Is a Flower” (NCH #433)
(verses 1 and 2)

III. The WORD - Emmaus Theatre

FIRST READING: [Luke 24:13-35](#)

The Road to Emmaus / A Ghost Doesn't Have Muscle and Bone

“The Road Home” · A Reader's Theatre

IV. SERMON:

“BURNING HEARTS, WALKING EARTH”

Pastor Laurie

“The question is not whether we are interconnected with all other life on earth, science has settled that. The question is whether we will live as if it were true.”

V. PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - EARTH DAY LITANY:

For the soil that grows our food, for the roots that hold the hillside, for the mutual benefits of fungus and plant root networks below our feet that feed the trees —

We give thanks. We will not look away.

For the communities in Richmond, West Oakland, and fence-line neighborhoods everywhere who breathe the costs of our economy - for those who fight for clean air as if their children's lives depend on it, because they do,

We give thanks. We will not look away.

For the people who stopped a coal terminal at the Port of Oakland but are fighting judicial decisions again to stop it — for every testimony given, every invocation prayed in the street, every 'no' that held

We give thanks. We will not look away.

For the Ohlone people who cared for this land before we arrived, and who are now teaching the 'settlers' how to care for it—

We give thanks. We will not look away.

For the burning in our bodies that refuses to go numb —

We give thanks. We will not look away.

Holy One, turn our grief into tending. Turn our rage into showing up. Turn our hope into more community engagement and outreach.

Amen.

VI. OFFERTORY “What Gift Can We Bring?”

- Jane Marshall

Edward Nunoo, bass & Rob Finucane, piano

Skyline Reparations Fund - Special Offerings in April

<https://skylineucc.org/reparations/>

In addition to our regular offering, there will be an additional special offering each Sunday during April for Skyline's Reparations Fund. See details below.

Beneficiaries of the funds are:

[Sogorea Te Land Trust](#) and [Black Wealth Builders Fund](#)

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

VII. THE REVELATION - BREAKING BREAD:

(Bread and fruit are shared in the circle.)

Communion Liturgy:

One: In the breaking of the bread, their eyes were opened.

All: *In the tasting of this fruit, our hearts are fed.*

One: This bread is sunshine, water, and soil microbes made edible.

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

We thank you, O God, for the 'ordinary and holy mess of a meal.' May this food turn into the energy we need to plant seeds, sign petitions, and love our neighbors as our own skin. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: skylineucc.org/news

CLOSING HYMN:

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

(NCH #31 · all verses)

BENEDICTION:

Go. Walk the earth as if it knows your name.
 Stop when your heart burns. Break bread with strangers. Come back and tell us what you saw.
 In the name of the one who walks with us — even now, especially now — go in peace.

defiance of despair. May every harvest be a recognition: the Risen One is here. On the road. In the breaking open. In the ground.

(Children lead the congregation. Hold what you have — a seed, a handful of soil, your own two hands that touch this earth every day.)

VIII. THE SENDING:

Blessing of the Seeds

God of the road, God of the table, God who walks with us even when our eyes are clouded — bless these seeds and the soil that will receive them. Bless these hands that will tend them. May every act of planting be a small

We will cast seeds over the meadow ... (the seeds are Red Maids or Calandrinia menziesii)

POSTLUDE:

For the Beauty of All Things Bright & Beautiful · Medley

Rob Finucane, piano

Upcoming Events – Ways to Stay Connected

Weekly Gatherings

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

- Tuesdays @ 10:30 AM – Bible Study (Leader: Pastor Laurie)
<https://skylineucc.org/online-bible-study/>
- Fridays @ 1:00 PM – Prayer and Care Group (Leader: Pastor Laurie)

In-Person:



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

Regular Meetings

- Third Thursdays @ 6:00 PM – Council Meeting on Zoom

Special Events – Mark Your Calendars

Date	Events	Location
Sunday April 19, after worship	<p style="text-align: center;">After Worship — Postcard Writing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No Coal in Oakland</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join us in the Friendship Room to sign postcards to our representatives:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* BAAD Letter: https://nocoal.org/baadletter/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EPA protection</p> <p>· Rep. Simon · Lateefah simon 3:21.docx</p> <p>· Senators Schiff & Padilla</p> <p>· https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13IYmRcfEKPfFG7L9-4pI7iGdOc91GARE4OLRvZn5coc/edit</p>	Skyline Friendship Room

	Faith in Action East Bay - PICO -related signatures .	
Each Sunday in April	<p><i>Skyline Reparations Fund - Special Offering</i></p> <p>There will be a special offering each Sunday during April for Skyline’s Reparations Fund. Please give generously to this important cause. <u>Please note in your donation</u> that it is for <i>The Reparations Fund</i>.</p> <p>Scan QR Code to make a donation via Paypal.</p> <p>B</p>  <p>Beneficiaries of the funds are: Sogorea Te Land Trust and Black Wealth Builders Fund https://skylineucc.org/reparations/</p>	Donations Requested during worship service
Monday April 20 Meeting begins promptly at 6:30 p.m.	<p>Join the Citywide Follow-up Public Accountability Session on Illegal Dumping in Oakland</p> <p>Contact Nancy Taylor 510-325-4957 for more info and/or to carpool.</p> <p>https://fiaeastbay.org/event/community-session-stop-illegal-dumping-in-oakland/</p>	Acts Full Gospel Church, 1034 66th Ave, Oakland, CA 94621
Saturday April 25 1:00 - 3:00 pm	<p>2026 UCC Earth Summit - “A Future of Hope”</p> <p>Keynote: Rev Dr. Kenneth Samuels, Jim Antal Lecture series. On Zoom. all are welcome.</p> <p>2026 Earth Summit</p>	
Sunday April 26, 10:30 am (cooks) 12:30 pm (servers) 1:00pm meal is served 1:30-3:00 clean-up	 <p><i>Serving at St Mary’s Center</i></p> <p>Preparing, serving and sharing a meal with seniors. We return to St. Mary's Center to do what we now know how to do: chop vegetables, set tables, share plates, and sit down together with our neighbors in the spirit of solidarity and beloved community. Contact</p>	St. Mary’s Center 925 Brockhurst St. Oakland CA 95608

	cath.kessler@comcast.net (We also have worship on Sunday!)	
Showtimes: 3:45 & 6:15 pm April 19-25	Documentary: “Steal this Story, Please!” A documentary portrait of <i>Democracy Now!</i> , journalist Amy Goodman - three decades of truth-telling on the frontlines of global conflict, corporate media, and political power. From Oscar-nominated filmmakers Carl Deal and Tia Lessin (Trouble the Water). Urgent, provocative, and unexpectedly funny. Get tickets at RialtoCinemas.com	Rialto Cinemas Elmwood - 2966 College Ave., Berkeley

A THANK YOU TO OUR APRIL & MAY VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you for your faithful service that brings our Sunday gatherings to life. All, please review the schedule below and consider where **your** gifts may enhance our church’s services. Email office@skylineucc.org or update the [Volunteer Schedule 2025-2026](#) if you can fill one of the open spots or if you are unable to volunteer on the date you are currently scheduled.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>GREETER</u>	<u>USHER</u>	<u>HOSPITALITY</u> <u>(food & drink)</u>
4/19/2026	Michael Armijo	Carolyn Noble	Sheila	Carolyn Noble
4/26/2026	Rod Repke	OPEN	Sheila	OPEN
5/3/2026	Carolyn Noble	Carolyn Noble	Sheila	Carolyn Noble
5/10/2026	Carolyn Catanzaro	Carolyn Noble	Sheila	OPEN
5/17/2026	Mona Sillers	Carolyn Noble	Sheila	OPEN