

# Skyline Church of Oakland

...progressive, spiritual, open & affirming, green



Many of our beliefs and behaviors are rooted in stories—narratives that are personal, familial, societal, cultural, and religious. We unconsciously absorb and actively construct many money stories.

This sermon series invites us to tease apart these overlapping narratives, to claim and recreate our stories considering the stories we find in scripture. Throughout our theme, we hope you experience:

- A shift in your personal narrative around money.
- Clarity regarding the areas of your money story that hold tension or heaviness.
- Release that sparks a reimagined life which more fully reflects your theological beliefs about giving, justice, and restoration of relationship in God's economy.
- Delight in the experience of giving as receiving

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## ***Reimagining Economic Systems***

*Sunday, May 9, 2021*

*This week we revisit the story of the widow's mite, a scripture that begs for-imagination and reinterpretation from the harmful ways it has been used. Instead of commending the widow's giving practices, perhaps Jesus is condemning the economic system that created her poverty.*

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Mona Sillers, Liturgist  
Anna Sackmann, Zoom Host

## **Prelude**

Gabrielle Lochard

## **Candle Lighting**

Pastor Laurie Manning

## **Call to Worship**

Mona Sillers

Can you imagine unfettered love?  
Free and bold, wild and true, the kind of love that changes you?

Can you imagine a home—safe and bright,  
With impromptu dancing, meals around table, and laughter late into the night?

Can you imagine faith like a compass  
That guides the way you shop and vote, the way you love and hope; That asks questions and yet still believes, even despite uncertainty?

Can you imagine a world where trees, bees, and all living things grow wild and free? Where peace is the narrative and hope the currency?  
A world where news stories are testimonies and funerals are far between? Can you imagine?

Today in worship, dare to dream. Dare to imagine what could be. And pay attention, for God is here, in wandering thoughts, hopes, and prayers.

## **Opening Music: “Betty’s Diner”**

Carrie Newcomer  
Teresa Jenkins

## **Welcome & Announcements**

➔ [Welcome & Concerns Form](#)

Pastor Laurie Manning

## **Prayer of Awareness**

Pastor Laurie Manning

## Music for Preparation, “I Shall Not Live in Vain”

Adolphus Hailstork, Emily Dickinson  
Gabrielle Lochard

## Scripture Reading

### Mark 12:38-44

*A poor widow seeks eternal life*

## Sermon

Pastor Laurie Manning

## Sermon Response

## Early Church Reflection

### “They Gave as They Were Able”

*Barnabus, Ananias & Sapphira (Acts 4:32-5:11)*  
Jane Medema

## Prayers of the People

Pastor Laurie Manning

## Lord’s Prayer

Our Creator/Mother/Father, 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, for ever. Amen.

## Offering Invitation

[Strengthen the Church](#)

## Ways to Give

- ›Write a check and mail it to the office at 12540 Skyline Blvd, Oakland, 94619 (they are deposited weekly)
- ›Use the [Quiks smartphone app](#) for a secure ACH transfer and low fees. After the initial setup, you can easily make donations with a click or two, or set it up for repeat donations. To get started donating, [click here!](#) [Read more about online giving here.](#)
- ›[Donate by PayPal](#)

## To Pledge

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

## Closing Music: “I Need You to Survive”

Hezekiah Walker, Ken Medema

## Benediction

Pastor Laurie Manning

## Postlude

Ken Medema

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