

Applewood United Church
An Affirming Community
Sunday, April 12, 2026
Holy Humour Sunday
*(*please stand in body or in spirit)*
Bold words are for all to share

Music for Gathering

Territorial Acknowledgment and Announcements

We understand that the land on which we live, work and worship is situated upon traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron - Wyandot, the Haudenosaunee and later the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The territory is mutually covered by the "Dish with One Spoon" Wampum Belt agreement. In the spirit of reconciliation, we commit to building relationships with all created beings, those who were here before, those who have settled, and those who continue to settle on this land. We commit to partnering with our Indigenous neighbours in being stewards and caretakers of God's Creation. Today, this remains the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we seek to live as reconciled people through our respect for, and our learning and understanding of, our Indigenous siblings.

Centering Music: "And On this Path" MV 8

* Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: (*responsive*)

One: Knock, knock.

All: Who's there?

One: Ally.

All: Ally who?

One: Alleluia!

All: God's joy is loose,

One: in smiles and laughter and merriment.

All: We thank God for this day in Easter's season.

One: Let our praise burst forth

All: in the most unlikely places and in silly ways.

One: May joy and thanks fill our hearts and our songs.

All: May our laughter be deep, for we are God's people.

One: Knock, knock.

All: Who's there?

One: Lettuce.

All: Lettuce who?

One: Lettuce pray!

All: O Great Laughing God,

**we come into your presence with joy
and longing to be surprised.**

**We thank you that you have given to us
the gift of laughter and delight.**

These things give hints as to the nature of your purpose for us and for all the earth.

**May we find that in giving up to laughter
there is healing and hope and
abundance and blessing.**

**Tickle our souls with the brush of your Spirit
to renew our worship and our living. Amen.**

Prayer - United Church of Canada, former Bay of Quinte Conference

*** Opening Hymn:** "Sing a Happy Hallelujah" VU 224

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation:

"Source of Laughter" *by Bruce Prewer*

Musical Response: "Halle, Halle, Halle" VU 958

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 16 *(Inclusive Bible)*

John 20:19-31 *(Inclusive Bible)*

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir: "Sing a Joyful Song"

Reflection: Who's laughing now?

*** Hymn:** "Give to Us Laughter" VU 624

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music: "Because He Lives"

***Hymn of Dedication:** "Behold, Behold!" MV 115

***Offering Prayer:** *(together)*

All: We offer ourselves, God:

our laughter, our tears, our work and our witness,
our time and our skills and our money.

Bless our gifts today, so that they may spread
your joy, your truth and your love in the world.

Amen

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer - VU 960

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:

for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

*** Closing Hymn:** "Go Tell it On Your Cellphones"

*** Commissioning/Benediction**

***Amen:** Grand Amen TLUS 15

Amen! Amen! Alleluia!

Amen! Amen! Alleluia!

Music for Scattering