

Applewood United Church
An Affirming Community
Sunday, June 21, 2026
Indigenous People's Day
*(*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: "Like a Rock" MV 92

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

One: We gather to share wisdom and faith -

**All: the wisdom of scripture, the wise words of elders,
the faith of our ancestors and faith within community.**

One: We gather to learn and to grow -

**All: we gather to grow deeper relationships
and learn new ways of being God's beloved people.**

One: We gather to praise, to pray, to sing.

**All: We come together to worship our God
of many names, in many ways.**

One: Let's pray together in one voice:

**All: Holy One, Author of all, Source of life,
Creator of stars and rivers and creatures,
we praise you with voices that mimic the songbirds,
we praise you with hearts that beat as strongly as
the tides, as powerfully as the hearts of the whales.**

**We worship you with the joy of frolicking otters,
we worship you with the devotion of the wolf pack.
We are deeply rooted in your love like the giant redcedars are rooted in their forest
groves.
Help us to follow your way as faithfully as the beavers who mate for life, with the
dedication of the moss that clings to the trees.
Teach us to learn from the creatures, the plants, the people and the cultures that
surround us,
so that we can share your peace, love and justice lavishly in the world.
We pray in the name of the Sent One, the Beloved One, the Dying and Rising One.
Amen.**

*** Opening Hymn:** "Called by Earth and Sky" MV 135

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation:

"We Have Always Been One Song"

An excerpt from "One Drum" by Richard Wagamese

***Musical Response:** "There's a River of Life" MV 160

Scripture Readings:

Micah 6:6-8 *The Inclusive Bible*

Matthew 22:34-40 *The Inclusive Bible*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir: "The Music of Grace"

Reflection: Where do we find Wisdom?

***Hymn:** "Many and Great, O God, Are your Works" VU 308

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music

***Hymn of Dedication:** "Know That God is Good" MV 104

Know that God is good, know that God is good,
know that God is good, God is good, God is good.

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

All: God of abundance, help us to spend these gifts wisely, share our love bravely and use our hands, our gifts, our resources, for the good of all. Amen

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer: *(a paraphrase by Jim Cotter)* VU 916

All: Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created things!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

*** Closing Hymn:** "Deep In Our Hearts" MV 154

*** Commissioning/Benediction**

***Sung Amen:** "Great Amen" MV 208

Amen, Amen,
Amen, Amen!

Music for Scattering