

**Applewood United Church
An Affirming Community
Sunday, March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday**

*(*please stand in body or in spirit)*

Bold words are for all to share

Music for Gathering/Processional: "Hosanna Loud Hosanna"

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: With our Palm Sunday shouts and waving palms
we fill the air with welcome.

All: Blessed is the One who comes in God's name.

One: We welcome the presence of Jesus,
we welcome friends and strangers,
we welcome those who search and those who find.

All: Hosanna in the highest! (*louder*)

Hosanna in the highest!

One: We fill this time and space with our songs and praise,
with worship and anticipation.

All: Blessed is the One who comes in God's name.

Hosanna in the highest!

One: And we pray together:

**All: Holy God, today we stand with those who shouted
and those who celebrated,**

with those who shared blessings
and those who would betray.
We stand on the edge of the story,
and we pray for you to draw us in.
Draw us in so that we may be moved
to deepen our faith, deepen our commitment,
deepen our relationship with you,
and with the One we follow,
as we travel to Easter together. Amen.

* **Opening Hymn:** "He Came Riding" VU 124

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation:

"Let's Stay with the Hosannas" by Liz Crumlish/*Spill the Beans*

Musical response: from TLUS 16 (*chorus*)

Scripture reading: Matthew 21:1-11 (The Inclusive Bible)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir: "Let Your Glad Hosannas Ring"

Reflection: At the Gates

***Hymn:** "Ride On, Ride On" VU 126

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music: "The Holy City"

Hymn of Dedication: " Jesus Christ is Waiting" VU 117 verse 5

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

All: In the name and in the spirit of Jesus,
we bring our gifts to you, O God.
May they reflect our willing spirits
and our joyful hearts.
May they become a source of hope, comfort,

inclusion and justice far beyond this place. Amen

Time for Preparing: "Holy Week" *by Ann Weems*

Prayers of the People including The Lord's Prayer

***Closing Song:** "Stay with Us Through the Night" VU 182

*** Commissioning:**

**All: O God, in Jesus Christ
you triumphantly entered Jerusalem,
and began a week of pain and sorrow,
of shared meals and shared betrayal.
Lead us into the stories of this week,
help us to experience them fully.
Point us toward the distant hill,
as we follow Jesus to the cross,
and to Easter's light.
Amen**

*Today's service -- and our Holy Week story -- continues in our
Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 pm on April 2,
and Good Friday, April 3 at 10:30 am*

Music for Scattering

Reflection:

As she has done in past years, Rev. Joanne will be presenting a monologue based on a character that may have witnessed Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. If you would like a copy of that monologue after Sunday, please contact her or the office.