

**Applewood United Church
an Affirming Congregation
Sunday, October 12, 2025
Thanksgiving Sunday**
(please stand in body or in spirit)*
Bold words are for all to share

Music for Gathering: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

Territorial Acknowledgement 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: "We Give Our Thanks" MV 187

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

One: The flaming leaves of autumn
are like the fire of God's spirit.

**All: The bounty of the fields
is like the fullness of God's love.**

One: We are called to share
the blessings of this land with the world.

**All: We are called to share our abundant gifts
to bring justice and compassion to all God's creation.**

One: With thankful hearts we come to worship.

All: With grateful spirits we celebrate this day.

One: Let us pray with one voice:

**All: Creator God,
we come to celebrate the beauty and bounty
of your good earth:
glorious blue skies and blazing fall colours;
fields ripe for harvest;**

gardens overflowing with goodness.
Warmth in our homes and our hearts,
diverse community that supports us.
Give us thankful hearts, God of all.
Send your Spirit to guide our prayers
and inspire our lives to overflow with gratitude.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Adapted from 'Celebrate God's Presence' United Church of Canada

*** Opening Hymn:** "We Plough the Fields" VU 520

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation: "God of Autumn"

Musical response: "Be Still and Know" MV 77

Scripture readings:

Philippians 4:4-9 *The Inclusive Bible*

John 6:25-35 *The Inclusive Bible*

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir: "We Thank You, Lord"

Reflection: Thankful

*** Hymn:** "Praise God for the Harvest" VU 517

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music: "Grateful"

*** Hymn of Dedication:** "What Can I Do?" MV 191

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

All: Generous and Loving God,
as we present our gifts,
fill us with your passion to care for the world,
leaving no one vulnerable or forgotten,
and all creation dwelling in peace.

**In your name we pray,
Source of Plenty, Staff of Life, Spirit of Generosity.
Amen**

Prayers of the People

Sung response: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" VU 400

The Lord's Prayer *said*

*** Closing Hymn:** "For the Fruit of All Creation" VU 227

*** Commissioning/Benediction**

*** Sung Amen:** "Grand Amen" TLUS 15

Music for Scattering