

Applewood United Church
An Affirming Community
Sunday, October 19, 2025
(please stand in body or in spirit)*
Bold words are for all to share

Music for Gathering: "Largo", "Voix Seraphique"

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: "Come and Fill Our Hearts" MV 16

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

One: As the leaves continue to fall,
and the days become colder,
All: we gather in the warmth of God's love.
One: As the news of the world demands our attention,
All: God draws us into a safe and inclusive community.
One: As our living reveals both joys and sorrows,
All: God persists in accompanying us.
One: As we lift our hearts and our voices together,
All: we also lift our praises to God in worship.
One: Let's pray together:
All: Tenacious God,
throughout time you have provided your people
with determined leaders,
with insistent prophets,
with wisdom and with constant care.
In Jesus, you have given us enduring hope
and everlasting life.

Be with us in this time of worship,
fill our hearts with your persistent presence,
fill our minds with a desire for your relentless justice,
fill our voices with passion to declare your unshakable truth, so that we may work
unceasingly for your reign here on earth.
We pray in the name of your steadfast Love,
Jesus the Christ. Amen

*** Opening Hymn:** "Praise with Joy the World's Creator" VU 312

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation: The Season of Letting Go

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

Scripture readings:

Jeremiah 31:31-34 *The Inclusive bible*

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5 *The Inclusive Bible*

Luke 18:1-8 *The Inclusive Bible*

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir: "As We Come Together"

Reflection: Persistence

***Hymn:** "Great is Thy Faithfulness" VU 288

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music: "Poem"

*** Hymn of Dedication:** "God is Here" VU 389 Verse 4

God of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;

**we who cannot live without you,
we adore you. We believe!**

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

**All: Persistent and giving God,
bless all that we offer this day.
May our gifts bring hope to the hopeless,
peace to the troubled, and justice
to those that are forgotten. Amen**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*) VU 960

*** Closing Hymn:** "Live into Hope" VU 699

*** Commissioning/Benediction**

*** Sung Amen:** "Sing Amen" VU 431

Music for Scattering