Applewood United Church
An Affirming Community
Sunday, October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday
*(*please stand in body or in spirit)*
***Bold** words are for all to share*

Music for Gathering

Territorial Acknowledgment and Announcements *(Silent)*
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.

Centring Music: "And on This Path" MV 8

***Call to Worship**

***Opening Hymn:** "Yahweh Be Praised" MV 51

Lighting of the Christ Candle
One: We light this candle as a sign to show the presence of the spirit within this sanctuary. It is known as "Ner Tomid," the eternal light of the world; that shines for everyone, no matter where we are, no matter who we are.
All: At this time of pressing need throughout the world, we reach out to the light to guide us and keep us. May this time of thoughtfulness help us to be a wise and understanding people, eager to live as brothers and sisters in creation, making a difference in this world.

Lighting the Candle of Peace.
One: We light this candle for peace, and as we do so we pray:
for all victims of violence
for marginalized people,

for those who have been bullied, brutalized and cast aside on the refuse pile of everyday life.

All: Let us pray for tolerance and peace, justice and forgiveness, right relations and reconciliation with our indigenous neighbours so that we may find lasting solutions to prejudice, bigotry and bias, hate, terrorism and crime.

Time with the young at heart

*Hymn: "Halle! Halle! Halle!" VU 958

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!
Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!

Opening Prayer of Confession

One: Amid the crowds and clamour, the harried schedules of modern society, where we engage in interaction with others for a large portion of each day;

All: there is still a terrible loneliness for many in our community; a sense of always being alone with our problems, our hurts and our struggles.

One: It is as though we are really islands isolated unto ourselves; cut off from everyone else in those situations where it really matters.

All: Forgive us of our readiness to lock both ourselves and others away and of our neurotic need to find fault with… and note the failings of others.

One: Show us the gifts we have to share with each other and help us to bridge the chasms that keep us from knowing and caring for those with whom we share this time and place.

All: Be with us now as we commit to the ongoing process of reformation, affirmation, reconciliation and of life within our community of love and safety. Amen.

***Sung Response:** "Neighbour, I am Your Neighbour" TLUS 164

Readings from the Historical Record: *(The Inclusive Bible)*

First Testament readings

Leviticus 19:14

Leviticus 21:18-20
Deuteronomy 16:19
Deuteronomy 27:18

Psalm 146 VU 868 with refrain
One: Praise God, O my soul. As long as I live I will praise God.
All: Yes, as long as I have life I will sing praises to God.
One: Put not your trust in princes, nor in any mortal, for in them there is no help.
All: When they breathe their last they return to dust; then their plans come to nothing.
One: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
All: whose hope is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them
One: the One who keeps faith for ever,
All: who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

Refrain – ***Give your praise to God, O my soul!***

One: God sets prisoners free, restores sight to the blind.
All: God straightens those who are bent; loves those who are just.
One: God cares for the stranger in the land, and sustains the widow and orphan;
All: but the way of the wicked God turns to ruin.
One: God shall reign forever, O Zion,
All: your God for all generations.

Refrain – ***Give your praise to God, O my soul!***

Mark 10:46-52

One: For the word of God in scripture, among us, and within us.
All: Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: "He Is the Rock" *(Michael Barrett)*

Thoughts for Living: "As For the Gift of Sight"

***Hymn:** "I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me" VU 575
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime! Time of Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music

Offertory response *(sung):*
Praise God who calls all humankind,
Praise Christ for loving ties that bind;
Praise spirit making all things new:
One love, one Good, we honour you!
(Tune: Tallis Canon, Lyrics Mary Luti)

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Caribbean Lord's Prayer

Ministry of this Church *(announcements)*

***Closing Hymn:** "You Shall Go Out with Joy" VU 884

***Commissioning**

***Benediction**

***Amen:** “Sing Amen” VU 431

Postlude

Next Sunday, November 1, 2026
All Saints Sunday…change of time Sunday (clocks back 1 hour)
Bring a photo or object of memory of someone who was/is a saint to you.