

**Applewood United Church
an Affirming Congregation
Sunday, September 14, 2025
Second Sunday of Creation**
(please stand in body or in spirit)*
Bold words are for all to share

Music for Gathering

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: “Open Our Hearts” MV 21

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

One: We gather as God’s imperfect people -
All: carrying our worries and clutching our mistakes.
One: We gather as those who may be lost -
All: yet yearn to be found.
One: We gather as God’s forgiven people -
All: bringing our gratitude and holding our humility.
One: We gather as God’s worshipping people,
All: to be renewed in prayer and praise,
to find a true home in community and in God’s heart.
One: Let us pray together:
All: God, our Creator, we celebrate
with all living creatures today.
Remind us that we are never so lost that you
cannot find us, and that we – and all humanity,
and every migrating monarch butterfly,
every ripening pumpkin and flowering aster,

every bloom going to seed,
every swimming and crawling and climbing creature,
are precious to you.
We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen

*** Opening Hymn:** “It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker” MV 30

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation: A Universal Prayer

from the UN Environmental Sabbath program

Musical response: “Called by Earth and Sky” MV 135

Scripture readings:

1 Timothy 1:12-17 *The Inclusive Bible*

Luke 15:1-10 *The Inclusive Bible*

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir: “The Earth is Our Cradle”

Reflection: Sinners

Hymn: “Like a River of Tears” MV 98

Time for Creation

Offering of Music

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

What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I’ll sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.

I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share.

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*** Offering Prayer (together)**

**All: Generous God, may we always be inspired
to give as you give:**

without limits,
without judgement,
with compassion, and with hope.
May all that we offer encourage, empower
and strengthen our bonds with one another,
and with you. Amen

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*Caribbean version*)

* **Closing Hymn:** "Draw the Circle Wide" MV 145

* **Commissioning/Benediction**

* **Sung Amen:** VU 431

Music for Scattering