

Applewood United Church
An Affirming Community
Sunday, September 27, 2026
Season of Creation 4
Indigenous/Orange Shirt Sunday
*(*please stand in body or in spirit)*
Bold words are for all to share

Music for Gathering

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: "We Wait for God" TLUS 57 Verses 1,4

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

One: Let us lift our voices in praise.

All: Let us sing to the Creator of heaven and earth.

One: Let us praise the rock of our salvation, the One
who made water flow from a rock in the wilderness.

**All: We give thanks to the One who has created
and is creating.**

One: We open our hearts to the Creator now, in prayer.

**All: God of love and power, you have given us life and asked us to be life-giving people in
your creation. Yet we sometimes question whether you are with us or not, as we
grumble among ourselves or become anxious about the future. When we stop and
think, O God, we know the future is in your hands, and we with it, and so we gather to
have our thirst quenched, our hearts moved and lifted, our spirits encouraged. Bless
us, for we trust your Spirit to help us find our way toward justice and right relations as
disciples of Jesus. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*** Opening Hymn:** "Like a Rock" MV 92

For Reflection and Revelation: Thanksgiving Address

***Sung Response:** "God in the Darkness" MV 17 Verses 1,3

Scripture Readings: (The Inclusive Bible)

Exodus 17: 1-7 *Water flows from the rock.*

Matthew 21:23-32 *By what authority?*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir: "Sweetgrass and Candle"

Reflection: "From Our Hearts"

***Hymn:** "Sisters Let Us Walk Together" MV 179

Invitation to the Offering

Offering of Music: "Are these not empty words?" TLUS 116 Vs 1,2,4

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

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

All: God, Creator and Great Mystery, we thank you for the gifts of this land and its people. We recognize that the Indigenous people have carried the wisdom of respect for and balance within creation for generations. May we relearn this wisdom from the elders, and renew our gratitude for your abundant gifts, even as we give our own gifts here and now in the hope that justice and healing will come. This we pray in trust of your Spirit and in the name of our brother Jesus. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer: *(sung)* "Our Father in Heaven" TLUS 70

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the pow'r and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence" VU 421

***Commissioning/Benediction**

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

Amen! Amen! Alleluia!

Amen! Amen! Aleluia!

Music for Scattering