

Applewood United Church
an Affirming Congregation
Sunday, September 7
Season of Creation, Sacrament of Communion
(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: “Like A Rock” MV 92

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

One: God says, “I have made you, and I know you.”

All: We respond with voices full of praise.

One: God says, “I am always with you.”

All: We respond with grateful hearts.

One: God says, “You are mine and I love you.”

All: We respond with our lives and our actions.

One: We say, “God has made us, and knows us,
God is with us, and we are loved.”

**All: In our worship and our witness, we declare
our belonging in Beloved Community.**

One: Let us pray together:

**All: Loved and Loving God,
you know us so well – have always known us.**

**Help us to seek your presence, and open us
to your mysterious touch, so that we can both
be inspired and inspire others to follow your way
of love, justice and peace.**

**In this season of Creation, remind us that you call us into a relationship with all
beings, all growing and living things, all mountains and seas and sky.**

**Lead us to form communities where all of creation,
including humanity, is valued, respected and
given the means to thrive.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus, who still calls us
to follow and serve.**

Amen

*** Opening Hymn: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" VU 291**

Prayer for Reflection and Revelation: "Peace with Creation"

Musical response: "Teach Me, God, to Wonder" VU 299 Verse 1

Scripture readings:

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 *The Inclusive Bible*

Luke 14:25-33 *The Inclusive Bible*

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Music for Reflection: "The Wonder of Creation"

Reflection: Known, loved and called to follow

Hymn: "God, Help Us to Treasure" MV 147

Time for Creation

Offering of Music: "On This Good Earth" TLUS 158 verse 1 & 5

*** Hymn of Dedication: "For the Gift of Creation"**

**For the gift of Creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.**

May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

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

All: In the name and in the spirit of Jesus,
we bring our gifts to you, O God.
Help us to give with them
a ready mind,
a willing spirit,
and a joyful heart. Amen.

Choir: " For Everyone Born "

Sacrament of Communion

*Today's Communion liturgy was written by
Rev. Dr. Nancy E. Hardy
and published in her book, "Worship in the City,
Prayers and Songs for Urban Settings"*

*** Closing Hymn:** "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" VU 468

*** Commissioning/Benediction**

*** Choral Benediction:** "Go Now in Peace"

Music for Scattering