

**Applewood United Church
an Affirming Congregation**

**Hybrid Worship for June 4, 2023
Worship and Annual Congregational Meeting**

Territorial Acknowledgment and Announcements

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is situated upon traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron - Wyandot, the Haudenosaunee and later the Mississauga of the Credit First Nations. The territory is mutually covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibway and other allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, this remains the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in their community, and to share and respect Mother Earth.

Centering Music: "Gather Us In" MV 7

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, gather us in,

ground us, ground us in you.

Call to Work and Worship:

One: God gathers us to worship and work.

All: In these we celebrate God's presence.

One: God's Spirit enlivens our time together,

All: may we be led and inspired by that Spirit.

Hugh Miller: In the name of Jesus Christ,
the one true head of the church,
this gathering is called to order,
for worship and for work appropriate to its time.

Motion regarding voting on all matters *full members only*

Review of Agenda *distributed prior to the meeting*

Minutes of past meetings *distributed prior to the meeting*

Opening Prayer:

**All: Holy God, you are the source of life and love,
the source of true community.**

You call us together in this place,

you call us to faithfulness as your people.

We pray for your guidance in this meeting today,

we pray that your Spirit will open our hearts

to hear one another deeply.

**As we look back on our year of ministry,
and decide how to journey faithfully with you in the year ahead here at Applewood,
help us to listen respectfully, speak courageously,
imagine a future fearlessly, and plan faithfully.
Throughout our meeting today, give us vision,
hope, and deep gratitude for the gifts shared.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen**

Opening Hymn: "Worship the Lord" VU 401 verses 1-3

Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)
Praise the creator, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands)
in devotion to God who is one!

Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing,
and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness,
worship and work must be one!

Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)
Praise the creator, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands)
in devotion to God who is one!

Praying and training that we be a blessing,
and by our handiwork daily confessing:
we are committed to serving humanity,
worship and work must be one!

Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)
Praise the creator, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands)
in devotion to God who is one!

Called to be partners with God in creation,
honouring Christ as the Lord of the nation,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice,
worship and work must be one!

Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)
Praise the creator, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands)

in devotion to God who is one!

Prayers for Reflection and Revelation: Remembering community members

One: Compassionate God, we join our hearts together to give thanks this day for your family in this community and around the world. We thank you for the wisdom of elders and the new ideas of youth, for the delightful energy of children and the measured energy of those in their middle years. We thank you that we have been blessed and touched by so many. We also thank you for those who have left this community of faith as they have moved to other communities, other cities and other lives. We especially offer our thanks for those members of the Applewood United Church family who have died in the past 12 months. We continue to pray for their families and friends.

We remember:

Al Cosgrove
David Adams
Agnes Paterson
David Hayden
Eileen Woodland
David Sager
Valerie Reed
Margaret Anderson
Eileen Wilkinson
Johanna Sadak

Loving God, remind us that in life, in death, in life beyond death, you are with us, we are not alone. Amen.

Sung response: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" VU 602

Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.

Before our Maker's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes,
each other's burdens bear;
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

This glorious hope revives

our courage on the way;
that we shall live in perfect love
in God's eternal day.

Scripture readings:

2 Corinthians 13:11–13

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Matthew 28:16–20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

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

All: Thanks be to God

Chair's Remarks Hugh Miller

Annual Reports

Motion to receive and accept Reports

Choir: "As We Come Together"

Celebration of ministries Rev. Joanne

Including thanks for the now closed RGSW program

Sung Response: "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!

Introduction to the Offering

Motion to reappoint the treasurer

Motion to elect Committee Chairs and Members for the 2023-2024 church year

Motion to give the Executive Committee the power to fill any vacant positions

Gift of Music

Hymn of Dedication: "Know that God is Good" MV 104
Know that God is good, know that God is good,
know that God is good, God is good, God is good.

Offering Prayer

**All: Holy and giving God,
Bless the gifts we bring today:
bless our time offered in your service,
bless our skills and talents shared in love,
bless our resources given to reshape your world.
Amen**

New Business

Motion to end the Annual Congregational Meeting

Closing Prayer:

One: God of all our days and times,
our meeting and worship has ended,
but now the real work begins.

**All: We thank you for the freedom in which we gathered,
made our decisions, and looked to the future.**

One: We are thankful for the decisions we have made,
and the visions we have glimpsed;
and for the challenges ahead.

All: We are grateful for the joys shared,

successes we celebrated, and lives remembered.

One: Help us to carry out the work that is now before us,
and keep us faithful, each in our own unique ways,
to the light, the truth, and the life of Jesus. Amen

Closing Hymn: “Deep in Our Hearts” MV 154

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
deep in our hearts there is a common current,
flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

Commissioning /Blessing for Lunch

Sung Amen: VU967