

Little Current United Church Pastoral Charge
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Minister: Rev. Whitney Bruno - lcucpc@gmail.com
Music Ministry: Ruth McDonald, Judith Mosher, & Choir
** an invitation to stand in body or spirit in the service
~ BOLD PRINT- Congregational Participation

Twelfth after Pentecost Sunday– August 16, 2026
Today - 10:00 am at Little Current United Church

WELCOME: a special welcome to guests worshipping with us today. Please sign guest book as you enter the sanctuary.

Gathering & Prelude
Announcements - The Life & Work of the Church
We Approach God

Centering:

Land Acknowledgement

We gather this morning on land in Little Current. Before we spoke English on this land, we spoke French and called here Le Petit Courant. Before we spoke French here, we spoke Ojibwe, also known as Anishinaabemowin, and called here Waabijewung. Many names. Many peoples. Many generations. One place. In honour of all who have come before us, may we never forget history didn't begin with English here. There are more sacred stories. In hope of all the people after us, may we weave our lives with peoples who call this place home. We are all sacred people – beloved children of the Holy One.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Jesus said - you do not light a lamp and ferret it under a basket. You light it, set it up among all, and share the light. So we light this candle reminding ourselves Christ is to be shared, and is the centre of this family.
- Light the Christ Candle.

Call To Worship: *Based on Isaiah 56*

Your response is: *I will gather!*

One: All the ones without close family, God says:

All: I will gather!

One: All the foreigners far from home, God says:

All: I will gather!

2.

One: All who love one another, as I have loved them, God says:

All: I will gather!

One: All the peoples of the world,

All: I will gather!

One: And all the people here right now,

All: I will gather!

One: So my house of prayer will be joyful, and open to all. Let us gather for God calls us!

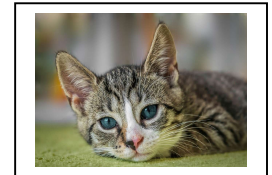
Invocation (unison)

Come again to us, Loving God. Mend our divisions, draw our attention to our commonalities, guide us to appreciate each other's diversity, and let us be one made of many. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *“Will You Come and Follow Me” (VU 567)*
(vs 1,2,4,5)

Learning Time for All Ages:-

Papa and the Cats
(A True Story)



Listening

Hymn of Illumination (MV 137 vs 1)

Welcome, Jesus, you are welcome
in the world made hard by fear;
loving reach us, living teach us,
Jesus, you are welcome here.

Scripture Reading.

Matthew 15:10-38

May God's spirit shape our understanding of these words.
And may they awaken in our hearts

3.

Sermon: "Won't Somebody Please Think of the Children!"

Learning Hymn:

VU 402

"We Are One, As We Come"

M4M – Your Generosity Matters.

"Threads of Identity"

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

Let us now consider all we give towards God's work of loving all peoples, animals, and all the cosmos. Let us dedicate all our gifts towards God's work of love. *(The offerings are brought forward)*

****Offertory Hymn:** (VU 540)

***Grant us God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.***

Prayer of Commitment (unison)

Creator God, you reveal yourself to us in diversity. We gather our diverse gifts today and ask you to bless the time and volunteering, the prayers and phone calls, the PAR offerings and the financial donations. Bless the diversity we give to bless the diversity of your world. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Holy One, we are quick to judge, to categorize, to label people by race, age, gender, and more. We are quick to believe we know who people are without ever taking the time to know them. We inherit prejudices, and we perpetuate it when we don't seek to understand one another through hearts of love. Please, give us your holy vision to discover your likeness in everyone we meet.

Loan us your holy compassion to treat everyone as our beloved neighbour. Challenge us, as the woman challenged Jesus, so our

4.

ways are changed to be more inclusive, more loving, and more tolerant. Challenge us, as Jesus did his disciples, to evaluate people on whether love comes out of them instead of what they look like, wear, how they speak, or what they believe. Challenge us to share in the world you dream of.

And Dear Holy Creator, we bring to you today events and people, situations and illnesses that already are challenging us. We need your help. We need your help with all the pain of wildfires, earthquakes, saber-rattling, and climate crisis. We need your help in our own lives with health diagnoses, goodbyes, and anxious fears. We need your help.

Because you challenge us to do better. Because you do not leave us alone in the challenges life throws at us. Because you are so faithful, we gather in gratitude. Thank you.

All of this we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...(+)1
..**"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever and ever."**
... Amen.

Going Forth Into The World

Going Out Hymn:

"This Is The Day"

VU 412

Benediction & Carrying Out the Light:

May God, the God of the known and unknown, the God who makes northern lights and mosquitos both, the God who was and is and will be - the God beyond our language and yet as close as our shadow - bless you this week with the confidence that you, in all your quirkiness, are just who God knew this world needed and so, God made you and loves you.

Light is extinguished, we carry the light in our hearts

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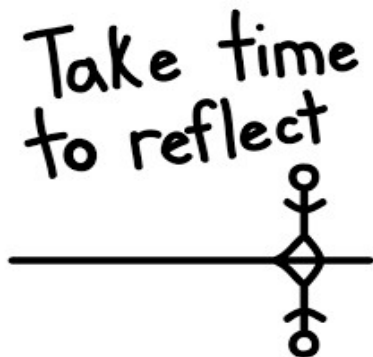
Choral Benediction: “May the God of Peace” MV 224

May the God of peace
and of all good, (Repeat)
be always with you. Amen!
May God’s peace be with you. Amen!

Go now in the peace of Christ!

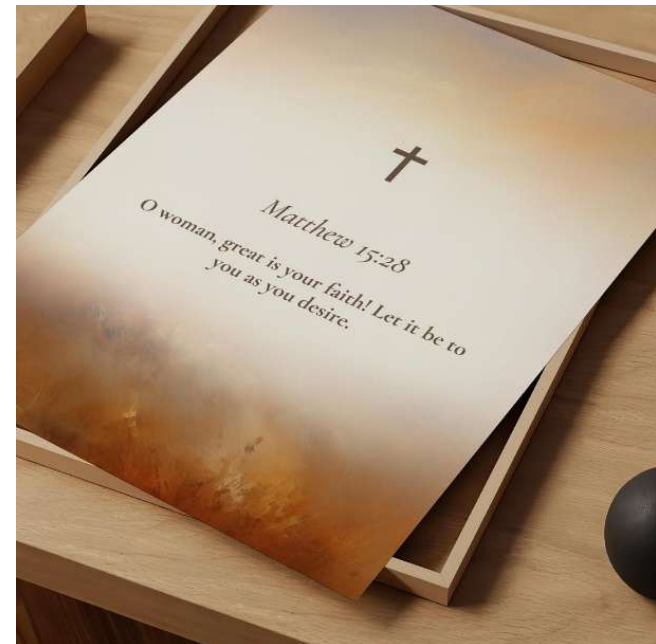
Resources Sourced:

(+1) - Revised and expanded from Juanita Austin, *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2026, page 32



Little Current United Church PC

**Welcome
To Worship**



etsy.com

**“Twelfth after Pentecost”
Sunday**

August 16, 2026

Hymns - August 16, 2026 – LCUCPC

#1. Will You Come and Follow Me (VU 567) vs 1,2,4,5

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

~ ~ ~

#2. VU 402 "We Are One"

1. We are one as we come, as we come, joyful to be here,
in the praise on our lips there's a sense that God is near.
We are one as we sing, as we seek, we are found;
and we come needful of God's grace as we meet,
together in this place.

2. We are on as we share, as we share brokenness and fear,
in the touch of a hand there's a sense that God is here.
We are one as we care, as we heal, we are healed;
and we share warmth in God's embrace as we pray
together in this place.
3. We are one as we feast, as we feast, peace becomes the sign;
in the bread and the wine there's a sense of love divine.
We are one as we come, as we feed, we are fed;
and we feel God's refreshing grace as we meet
at table in this place.
4. We are one as we hear, as we hear, heart and hand unite;
in the word we receive there's a sense that God's light.
We are one as we leave, as we love, we are loved;
and we seek justice in God's ways as we move together
from this place.

~ ~ ~

#3 VU 412 This is the Day.

1. This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is a day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.
2. Open to us, open to us
your gates, O God, your gates, O God;
we will go in, we will go in,
to your holy place, to your holy place.
Open to us your gates, O God,
we will go in to your holy place.
Open to us, open to us your gates, O God.
3. You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name, we will praise your name;
we will give thanks, we will give thanks,
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.
You are our God we will praise your name,
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
You are our God, you are our God, we will praise your name.