

Little Current United Church Pastoral Charge
www.littlecurrent-sheguiandah-unitedchurch.org

Box 254, Little Current ON P0P 1K0 368-2941

Minister: Rev. Whitney Bruno

Music Ministry: Ruth McDonald, Judith Mosher, & Choir

** an invitation to stand in body or spirit in the service

~ BOLD PRINT- Congregational Participation

Advent 2 – Joy - December 14, 2025

10:00 am at Little Current United Church

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

Gathering & Prelude

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

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

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 Waebijewung. 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 the peoples who call this place home.

We are all sacred people – beloved children of the Holy One.

Joy - this candle stands out for Gaudete Sunday
(from the Latin word meaning "rejoice ye").

Lighting the Advent Candle:

Reader 1: Again, we light a candle for hope- hope for ourselves, hope for God's beloved world. **[light the shortest blue/purple candle]**

Reader 2: Again, we light a candle for peace -peace in our hearts and peace on earth.

[light the next shortest blue/purple candle]

Reader 1: And now we remember how the angels told the shepherds news of great joy.

Reader 2: God's beloved was born among us, so that we could all have joy deep in our hearts.

2.

Reader 1: This joy is deeper than sorrow, stronger than fear. This joy surprises us even on the coldest, darkest winter day.

Reader 2: We light a candle for joy. May joy shine bright in our hearts and in every human heart. (+1) **[light the pink candle]**

Advent Candle Hymn: *Hope is a Star (vs. 3 & refrain) VU 7*
Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

*The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.*

Call to Worship

Christ is at home in your heart

Place your hand over your heart

Close your eyes

and see the candle's light in your mind's eye.

Sit quietly and notice where peace is stirring...

(pause)

Rest in the light of Joy beckoning...

breathe... breathe... breathe...

(pause)

All: Come, Joy, come

Stir in our souls

Find your birthing place

in our living.

May a song of Joy

for the love of all creation

echo in our hearts.

Come, Joy, come. (+2)

Invocation

God of deep joy, we do not always feel happy. Sometimes we feel sad. Sometimes we are worried. Sometimes we feel lonely. But your joy runs deeper than our every sorrow. May it bubble up within us, so that we can bring light and joy to all we meet. In the name of Jesus, Joy to the world! Amen.

3.

Learning For All Ages:

Welcome To The Improv Theatre Christmas Pageant!

Hymns During Pageant...

VU 44 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear vs. 1,2

VU 62 Once in Royal David's City vs 1,2

VU 75 While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks vs 1,2,3,4.

VU 69 Away In A Manger All verses, 1-3 (+5)

HOLY COMMUNION.



M4M - Your Generosity Matters -

Strengthening Communities

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

Giving presents is so much fun! Let us give God some presents now. *(The offerings will now be brought forward)*

****Offertory Hymn:** (VU 538)

*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.*

Prayer of Commitment (unison)

ALL: God of all gifts, as we give thanks, we offer you our gifts, gifts of money to help your work here and around the world, gifts of food to help those in need in our own district, and most of all the gift of ourselves. Help us give of ourselves in love and care for others. May Good News come alive in our hearts and our community. Amen. " (+3)

4.

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Benediction & Carrying out the Light:

Go, letting holy love and light shine through you,
a gift of great joy for all the world.
And may the blessing of God, who brought you to birth,
who is born anew among you,
and whose spirit gives you new life -
be with you now and always. Amen." (+4)

- Light is extinguished.

Choral Benediction: MV 213 Take Up His Song 2X

**Take up his song of peace
and go into the world.**

**Take up his song of peace
in ev'ry moment.**

**In ev'ry moment of the journey,
we're laying down our lives;
lay them down, in peace,
lay them down, and take up his song.**

Go now in the peace of Christ!

Sources Resourced (used with permission)

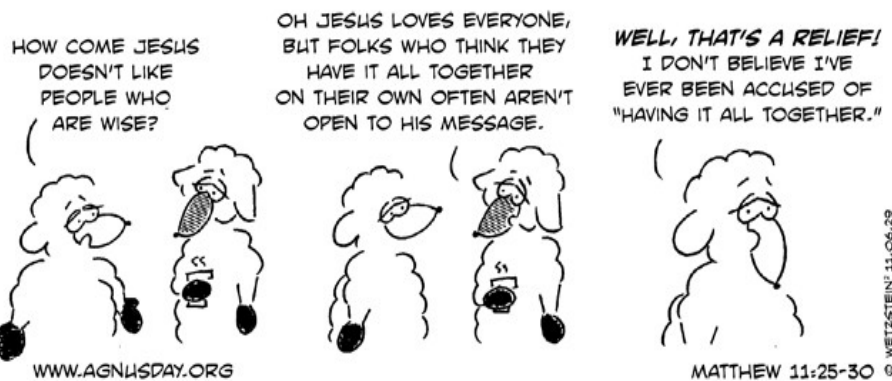
(+1) – from Let Us Pray, Volume 4 by Jane Doull, used with permission.

(+2) – by Lori Megley Best, adapted by Shawn Redden

(+3) – from Let Us Pray, Volume 4 by Jane Doull, adapted.

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Welcome to Worship With Little Current Pastoral Charge

If you like to sing Christmas Carols – We will be Carolling Dec 21 after service - all invited – Come and bring Joy to someone's Sunday.

Stay after worship and have coffee and refreshments
Say Merry Christmas to your friends.



'Joy'
Advent 3 Sunday
The Improv Theatre Christmas Pageant!
December 14, 2025

Hymns for December 14, 2025 – Little Current UCPC

#1 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* VU 44

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold,
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven’s all-gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled;
and still their heavenly music floats
o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o’er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

~ ~ ~

#2 *“Once in Royal David’s City.”* VU 62

1. Once in royal David’s city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven
who, with God is over all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
There among the poor and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

~ ~ ~



#3. *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* VU 75

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.
2. “Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind;
“glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.
3. “To you in David’s town this day
is born of David’s line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:
4. “The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,
and in a manger laid.”

~ ~ ~

#4 *Away In A Manger* VU 69

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay,
2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.