

Little Current United Church Pastoral Charge  
[www.littlecurrent-sheguiandah-unitedchurch.org](http://www.littlecurrent-sheguiandah-unitedchurch.org)

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

Minister: Rev. Whitney Bruno - [lcucpc@gmail.com](mailto: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

**Epiphany 4 Sunday – February 1, 2026**

**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**

**Centering:** - Choir –

**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.

**Lighting The Christ Candle:** (John 1:1-5)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness cannot comprehend or overcome it.

**(Light the Candle)**

**Call to Worship:**

One: Jesus saw all the crowds. Did he tell them to dispense and shoot them with tear gas?

**All: Absolutely not!**

One: Absolutely not. Jesus got in a high place, sat down, and began to speak and teach. Did he teach hate?

2.

**All: Absolutely not!**

One: Absolutely not. Jesus taught justice, kindness, and humility. Let us gather at the mountain as a crowd and inquire what God asks of us in this turbulent time of the world.

**Invocation:**

What do you ask of us, O God?

What do you require that we do with our lives?

On your behalf, the prophet Micah responds, "To do justice, to love kindness, and to journey humbly with God."

May these words be enlivened for us in our worship today and unfold into our living, today and always. Amen (+1)

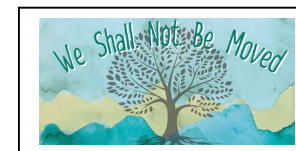
**\*\*Opening Hymn:**

(VU 498)

*"God Who Has Caused to be Written"*

**LearningTime for All Ages:**

**Learning the song:  
We Shall Not Be Moved**



**Listening**

**HYMN OF ILLUMINATION (MV 172, vs.1)**

*God says, "Be still so you may hear  
the words I whisper in your ear.*

*If you will listen, you will know  
I'm with you everywhere you go."*

**HOLY SCRIPTURES**

**Micah 6:1-8** (What does God require of us?)

**Matthew 5:1-12** (Blessed are the poor in spirit.)

May God's spirit shape our understanding of these words.

**And may they awaken in our hearts**

**SERMON:**

**The Singing Resistance**

**Learning Hymn:** "Blessed Are You Who Are Poor" TLUS 128

**Minute for Right Relations:**

**Heart of Winter**

**In many places in February, winter persists with its short  
days and lingering cold.....**

### 3.

## **Responding to the Word**

### **Invitation to Commitment:**

With what shall we come before the Lord  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall we come before God with loonies and toonies,  
with minutes and years?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of prayers,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall we give our own children, our own souls?

God has told us, we mortals, what is good,

and what does the Lord require of us  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with our God?

So whatever it takes for you to do good, do justice, to love kindness, and  
walk humbly with God - offer that. It may be time. It may be prayers. It  
may be finances. It may be education. It may be land dedicated to God's  
creatures.

Whatever you offer - offer it in justice, in kindness, and humbly.

Let us commit to the Lord!

*(The offerings will now be 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)

**Holy One, receive all we offer. Bless these gifts and bless us so  
we may offer blessings to the world. Let us carry your song of  
blessedness everywhere we wander. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

We are here, O Love, giving praise for the love that surrounds us,  
nourishes us, inspires us.

We are here together, giving thanks for the love that gathers us,  
includes us, unites us.

We are here inside, where it's warm and dry and safe, giving praise  
and thanks for the love that shelters us, embraces us, protects us.

### 4.

Where is love for so many who need it, we ask? Where is love for  
those of us sleeping in shelters or tents or on the street? For those  
of us with no community, no safety, no embrace?

We experience your ancient cry, Holy One, to do justice, to live  
kindness, to be humble, the cry of prophets, the cry of the Christ,  
the cry of all those, here in our midst and everywhere, who echo  
the challenge:

Loose the bonds, undo the thongs of the yoke, share bread, create  
homes for those without shelter. We pray that this will be our fast,  
our calling, our work as a community, not just to feed and clothe  
but to lift up the cries for help in our time, so that holy light will  
break forth like the dawn, healing spring up quickly, and ancient  
ruins be rebuilt.

Even as we respond to your ancient and ever-present call, we  
pause. Salt that has lost its zing is no good.

Light hidden under a basket helps no one.

Some of us fear we may have lost our zing,

O Love, that our light is dim.

Pour out your spirit on this community, O Love.

Let all who have been producing harvest after harvest of mercy,  
harmony, grace, and beauty in this place have time to lie fallow for  
a season.

Let each one shelter under your wings.

Gather in all who mourn, all who ache with loneliness, abuse, or  
sadness. Cradle each one in tenderness, O Spirit.

Satisfy our needs in parched places, make us like a watered  
garden.

Send the mind of Christ to us, again and again we pray, Great  
Spirit, that we may know when to provoke, when to soothe, when  
to wade into the crowd, and when to withdraw to the hills.

Help us to recognize the mind of Christ in all people: partners in  
ministry, participants in programs, authors, poets, artists, healers,  
activists, teachers, and all who reach out in compassion even  
when we don't understand their ways. At first.

**5.**

We pray for all people, near and far, and for this gorgeous planet, in all its power and frailty.

And now we lift prayers for ourselves and all others, prayers of gratitude and concern, that a light shall arise in the midst of despair and gloom shall become like noonday.

**(a time of silent prayer or prayers from the congregation)**

And now give us one heart, O God, as we offer Christ's prayer, (+2)

.....**"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**

**\*\*Hymn for New Week:** "Come Let Us Sing" VU 222

**Benediction & Carrying out the Light:**

Blessed are you who are upset - for God is upset too.

Blessed are you who want us all to live in peace - God wants peace too.

Blessed are you who are righteously angry and demand justice - God wants justice too.

Blessed are you with an aching heart for others - for the heart of God is one that aches.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely for your compassion towards others.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Blessed are you - God declares you are blessed.

***Light is extinguished, we carry the light in our hearts***

**Choral Benediction:** MV 218 *May the Love of the Lord*

***May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.***

***May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.***

***May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.***

**Go now in the peace of Christ!**

**Sources Resourced:**

**(+1) - Susan Lukey, High River U.C., High River, Alta. Gathering 2023**

**(+2) - Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont. Gathering 2026**

**Welcome to Worship**

**With**

**Little Current United Church**



**esty.com**

**Fourth after Epiphany**

**February 1, 2026**

## Hymns for Feb. 1, 2026 – LCUCPC

### #1. 498 VU “God Who Has Caused to be Written”

1. God, who has caused to be written your word  
for our learning,  
grant us that, hearing, our hearts may be inwardly burning.  
Give to us grace,  
that in your Son we embrace  
life, all its glory discerning.
2. Now may our God give us joy, give us peace  
in believing  
all things were written in truth for our thankful receiving.  
As Christ did preach,  
o’er all the world love must reach:  
grant every day love’s achieving.
3. God, should the powers of the earth and  
the heavens be shaken,  
grant us to see you in all things, our vision awaken.  
Help us to see,  
through all the earth cease to be,  
your truth shall never be shaken.

~ ~ ~

### #2 125 TLUS Blessed Are You Who Are Poor

Words By Daniel Charles Damon

1. Blessed are you who are poor—  
yours is the kingdom of God.  
Blessed are you who are hungry—  
for you will be filled.
2. Blessed are you who now weep—  
laughter will surely come.  
Blessed are you who are hated—  
hated for my sake.
3. One day you will rejoice,  
you will leap for joy.  
Blessings abundant will follow  
as you dwell in God.

4. Woe unto you who are rich—  
for you possess your reward.  
Woe unto you who have plenty—  
you will feel your want.
5. Woe unto you who rejoice—  
soon you will weep and mourn.  
Woe unto you who are followed—  
popular, but false.
6. Give your whole heart to God,  
love and serve the poor.  
Always treat one another  
kindly and with grace.

~ ~ ~

### #3 VU 222 “Come Let Us Sing”

1. Come let us sing to the Lord our song,  
we have stood silently too long;  
surely the Lord deserves our praise,  
so joyfully thank God for our days.
2. O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;  
God’s living waters will never fail.  
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,  
strengthened and comforted by God’s hand.
3. You dwell among us and cause us to pray,  
and walk with each other following you way;  
our precious brothers and sisters will grow  
in the fulfilling love they know.
4. Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing  
to the desire of all living things.  
Come, all you creatures, high and low,  
let your praises endlessly flow.

