

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

Epiphany 5 – February 8, 2026
Volunteer Appreciation Sunday
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:

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:

Jesus said: You are the salt of the world. You are the light of the world. And so, we light this candle, and pour this salt, and ponder: what could Jesus mean? **(Light the Candle)**

Call to Worship:

One: What does it mean to be salt and light to the world?

All: Salt preserves. Light keeps things from being hidden.

One: What does it mean to be salt and light to the world?

All: To hold on to what is good. To hold on to what is right. To hold on to what is just. To shine in the back rooms of oppression. To shine in the prisons of fear. To shine in places that have no hope.

2.

One: This is salt and light to the world.

All: This is Christ's people - salt and light - hope and wonder - in and with the world!

One: As salt and light, as hope and wonder, let us worship God! (+2)

Invocation:

As salt and light, as hope and wonder, we gather in Christ's name. Dear God, let us experience you here. Amen.

****Opening Hymn:**

(VU 325)

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

LearningTime for All Ages:

THANK YOU FOR
BEING A VOLUNTEER!



Listening

HYMN OF ILLUMINATION (MV 115)

Behold, (behold,) behold, (behold,)

I make all things new,

Beginning with you and starting from today.

Behold, (behold,) behold, (behold,)

I make all things new,

My promise is true, for I am Christ the way

HOLY SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 58:1-9 *(The Fast that God chooses.)*

Matthew 5:13-20 *(You are salt; you are light.)*

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

And may they awaken in our hearts

SERMON:

You are Salt; You are Light

Communion Hymn:

MV 10

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

HOLY COMMUNION:



3.

Minute for Mission – Your Generosity Matters:

Shared Healing and Cultural Renewal

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

Today, I ask you to think of all the ways you volunteer to help God's love be known to the world.

Think of the volunteer groups you are in.

Think of the precious time you have given.

Think of the finances you contribute to this church, and to other charities.

Think of the kindness you show - unplanned.

Think of the kindness you have received.

Think of the generosity of organizations and groups who have helped you.

Think of the precious time that's been invested in you.

As salt, as light, as wonder, as awe, as gratitude, as joy, as the people of God - let us dedicate ourselves once again to the service of God.

(The offerings will now be brought forward)

****Offertory Hymn:** (VU 542)

*We give you but your own,
what e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
we give it gratefully.*

Prayer of Commitment (unison)

Thank you God for all the love we have known. Thank you for inviting us to love others. We pledge finances, time, talents, land and kindness to your mission of fiercely loving the world.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Salt - salt to preserve - O God, attend to our prayers for preservation, healing, and zing...

4.

Light - light to reveal - O God, attend to our prayers for insight, wisdom, and understanding...

Fast - a fast of losing the bonds of injustice and undoing the straps of the yoke, and letting the oppressed go free, and breaking the chains - O God, attend to our prayers for a fast that you choose...

Glory - glory of you, dear God - glory of the kindness shown to us - the glory of a community that cares for one another, shares with one another, invests in each other - O God, attend to our prayers of glory...

In gratitude, God, for all of your beloved community, we pray thank you today. Amen.

Going Forth Into The World

****Hymn for New Week:**

VU 87

"I Am the Light of the World"

Benediction & Carrying out the Light:

Thank you. Thank you for being you. Thank you for loving one another. Thank you for being salt and light. Thank you. May God, the God of thankfulness, ever attend to you and reassure you that you are making a difference. You are living into the realm of God. May God bless you with an awareness of just how many people, animals, and environments you are being light and salt unto. May God bless you, your life, your work, your rest, you. God bless you.

Light is extinguished, we carry the light in our hearts

Choral Benediction:

MV 222 *May the Peace of God*

*May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the joy of God be the joy you know,
and may the world that God would see
be found in you.*

Go now in the peace of Christ!

Sources Resourced:

(+1) - Richard Bott, *Gathering ACE 2025-2026 Page 43*

Hymns for Feb. 1, 2026 – LCUCPC

#1. 325 VU “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help for ever,
and its confidence alone.
2. To this temple where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with your faithful loving-kindness
hear your servants as they pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within its walls away.
3. Here bestow on all your servants
what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain from you for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.
4. Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one,
one in might, and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

~ ~ ~

#2 MV 10 “Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

2. Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the marketplace.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.
3. Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

~ ~ ~

#3 VU 87 I Am the Light of the World

Refrain: “I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!”
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

1. When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun: **Refrain.**
2. To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above! **Refrain.**
3. To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nation with strength and good will,
to see God's children everywhere. **Refrain.**
4. To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth! **Refrain.**