

Little Current United Church Pastoral Charge
www.littlecurrent-sheguiandah-unitedchurch.org
Box 254, Little Current ON P0P 1K0 368-2941
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

Baptism of the Lord – January 11, 2026
10:00 am at Little Current United Church

WELCOME: a special welcome to guests worshiping 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.

Lighting The Christ Candle:

"I - Creator of All - Breath of All - Spirit of All - I have called you in righteousness. I have taken you by the hand and protected you. I have given you as a promise, a covenant, to be a light to the nations, to bring wisdom, release, and liberty." A paraphrase of Isaiah 42:5-7. In this, God tells us we are light to the world. We light this candle as a reminder Christ is the light. You are the light. We are the light together. And together, united by Christ, we shall bring forth wisdom, release, and liberty.

(Light the Candle)

Call to Worship:

One: Those who are crying for justice, come.

All: Who will save us?

One: Those who are bowed over, a broken reed, who know the

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straw that broke the camel's back - come.

All: Who will heal us?

One: Those who have been burning the midnight oil, and both ends of the candle, whose wicks are now burning dim and are one disappointment away from being snuffed out - come!

All: Who will give us hope?

One: The Servant of the Lord. He shall not grow faint or be crushed until:

All: All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.

Invocation:

Holy God, our Source, our Sustainer, our Redeemer, help our light grow stronger. Mend our brokenness. Answer our cries. Let all be well. We come to worship you, to learn from you, and to be empowered to take the hope you give us out into a world where so many things need hope that all shall be well. Amen.

****Opening Hymn: "I Hear the Voice of Jesus Say" (VU 626)**

Learning Time for All Ages:

Baptism 101

- Are you interested in being baptised? Please contact the church. Questions about what it means to be a member of the church? 'hmu' Want to renew your baptismal vows? Let's chat!

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

Isaiah 42:1-9 (God's servant brings justice)

Matthew 3:13-17 (Jesus is baptize)

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

And may they awaken in our hearts

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Sermon: This is my chosen!

Learning Hymn "I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry" VU 644

Minute for Mission

An Update from Pasture Valley Children's Home

Note from Gail and Mike Messick

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

Let us commit now to that life of hope and love, joy and peace. Let us dedicate time and resources, land and money, prayer and service to the world where all is well.

(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)

Generous God, bless us and all we offer. Let us and let our gifts testify to the life, death, and rebirth in you. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Friends,
like raindrops running across stones, finding their way down toward the shore to the racing rivers and deep into the earth, our prayers run together, returning to their source.

God receives our prayers, like parched earth soaking up cool rains, desperate to taste on her tongue the trust and vulnerability of her children.

She welcomes us with the tugging of love's tidal pull. In this knowledge, let us hold pray so that together we can unburden ourselves, praying to the One Who Has Claimed Us as Her Own.

Like a rainstorm, we're going to start soft, become heavier, and end with a rainbow. Our heavy prayers will not be recorded online.

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So we pray our soft prayers aloud and in our hearts, prayers that are polite for all company:

And we pray our heavy storm prayers, prayers shouted or growled, prayers that cry out and whimper and are not on audio for all posterity:

And we pray our rainbow prayers, the joy after the storm, the trust and hope, the rest in knowing God hears us, God cares, and we are not alone:

All these prayers, O God, we release to you, all our joys and fears, all our prayers for ourselves, and all our prayers for others. May your mercy and peace be on us. May your mercy and peace be upon the world. (+1)

This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray

.....Our Mother/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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Going Forth Into The World

**** Hymn for the New Week:**

(MV 135)

"Called By Earth and Sky"

Benediction & Carrying out the Light:

Go forth this day with the confidence of God's love written in your heart. Whatever this week brings, trust that your heart will cling to God and God will guide you with grace and surround you with mercy. Amen. (+2)

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.

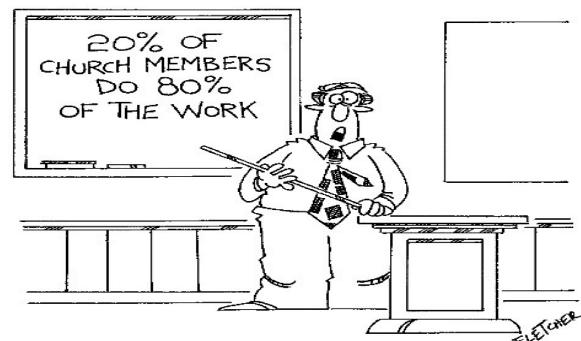
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

Go now in the peace of Christ!

Sourced Resources: used with permission.

(+1) Revised from *Tori Mullin, St. John's U.C., Marathon, Ont.*

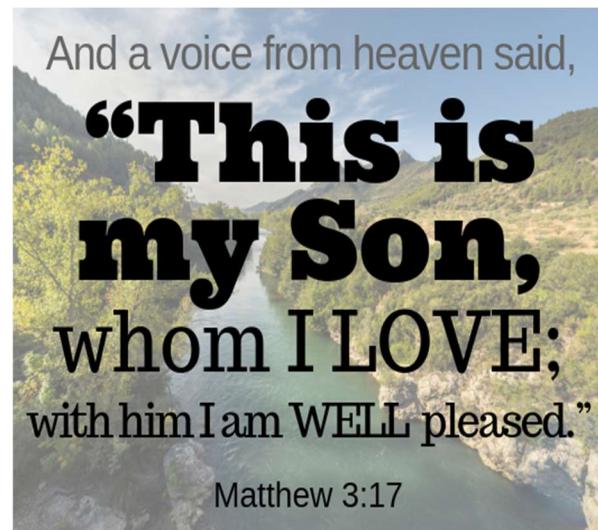
(+2) *Gill Le Feuvre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville, Ont.*



"So the question is: 'How to get that 20% to press on to greater achievement?'"



Welcome to Worship With Little Current United Church



Baptism of Christ Sunday

January 11, 2026

Hymns for Jan 11, 2026 – LCUCPC

#1. VU 626 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

- 1.I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast." I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.
- 2.I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold I freely give the living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live." I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him
- 3.I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright." I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sin; and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

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#2 VU 644 *I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry*

- 1.I was there to hear your burning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptised, to see your life unfold.
- 2.I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell
- 3.When you heard the wonder of the word, I was there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.
- 4.If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.
- 5.In the middle ages of your life; not too old, no longer young. I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

6. When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

7. I was there to hear your burning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptised, to see your life unfold.

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#3 MV 135 *"Called by Earth and Sky"*

Refrain: *Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.*

- 1.*Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.* **Refrain**
- 2.*Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.* **Refrain.**
- 3.*Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song.* **Refrain.**
- 4.*Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one.* **Refrain.**