

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

Twentieth after Pentecost Sunday - October 26, 2025
Blessing of the Animals

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

*Moving from the busy world – entering sacred space,
giving our time and energy to God.*

Anthem: The Choir.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

We sojourn on this land with those who are hooved and those with pads. We drink these waters with those who have feathers and those who have scales. We live here with those who came before us, and those who will come after us. Although we cannot change the past, and the wrongs Settler peoples and ways have done to Indigenous peoples and ways; Although we cannot reverse the industrial revolution and pollution of the world; we can be committed to a better present, and better future. This is Earth. This is gaia. This is Turtle Island. This is Mnidoo Mnising, Spirit Island, Manitoulin. This is home to Anishinaabe and immigrants, settlers and Metis. This is home to animals and plants and more seen and unseen. Because God calls us to be stewards, not conquerors, let us walk more humbly and softly with our neighbours.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a reminder Christ is present wherever two or three gather in his name. Christ is here among us, within us, around us, and we reflect Christ's light - whose light is the light of God.
(The Christ candle is lit)

2.

Call to Worship:

One: When the cat goes to pray, the cat says:

All: Mew! Meow! Mmmrrrrow!

One: When the dog proclaims amen, the dog says:

All: Woof! Roof! Arf-arf!

One: When the human goes to worship, the human says:

All: Let us worship as one with all creation!

Invocation (together)

Creator – you made us for relationship – each paw and foot, each fin and wing, each bacteria and microbe – we cannot live without one another. We come as one today to celebrate this marvelous world of relationships you have made. Amen!

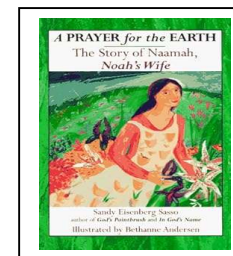
**** Opening Hymn:** “Teach Me God to Wonder” VU 299

Learning Time for all:

A Prayer for the Earth

- the story of Naamah, Noah's wife

- by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso



Listening

HYMN OF ILLUMINATION

MV 214

***May God's sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you.
May God's nurturing arms,
her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.***

HOLY SCRIPTURES

Psalms 148 VU 871 (Let All Creation Bless the Lord.)

Matthew 6: 25-34 (Do Not Worry)

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

Sermon: Stressed? Time for a nature break.

***Learning Hymn** “God of the Sparrow” VU 229

3.

Minute for Mission – Your Generosity Matters. Oct. 26, 2025

**Healing with Horses – Transforming Through Trust
Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory**

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

As the love from our pets and wildlife is priceless, so are the gifts God gives to us every day. May we use this opportunity to give back to God's world, through our time, our talents, and our donations. Our offering will now be received. (+1)

(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)

Reassuring God, assure us again that when we share, we have more than we could ever need. Multiply these gifts of time, talent, treasure, and terra from all present so all our relations have more than they could ever need to just be, and be well. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God,

Make us the people our dogs think we are.

Let us be a source of goodness in other's lives.

Let us bring food to the hungry (even if they just ate) and refresh the waters of the earth so every creature has living waters.

O God,

Help us me the people our cats think we are.

Let us be a source of comfort to the sorrowful,

And let us be a source of challenge to be better, do better.

Let us be humble enough to clean up other's waste and yet regal enough to not stand for anyone calling us anything less than A Beloved Child of God.

4.

O God,

Help us be like the birds.

Let us trust you will feed us, shelter us, and care for us.

Let us trust you will send good humans and animals into our lives who will share their homes with us, and their food.

Let us share these who are in need, too.

Let us be like the birds and care for each other's chicks- children- and carry a song with us every day.

O God,

Help us remember we are precious animals,

Part of a web that connects us to all life and elements, all creation. We cannot exist but in relationships, in community, in love. You God are our center, and the very dance of life that connects us all.

In Jesus' holy name we pray as he taught, saying....

.....**“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

Sending Forth Hymn:

VU 296

“This Is God's Wondrous World”

Benediction & Carrying out the Light:

Go out with God's unconditional love!

Go out aware there is more to life than humans and human wants!

Go out and notice all creation and your place within it!

Go out and be God's love. Amen!

- Light is extinguished.

5.

Choral Benediction: VU 424

1. May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

*Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful with we hear Christ's call.*

2. May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. **Refrain.**

Go now in the peace of Christ!



*Moving from the This sacred space, taking God's love and energy back into the
busy world to love and serve our neighbours*

Sources Resourced (used with permission)

(+1) – Walter Reid, 2019, *Gathering Worship, Used with Permission*

(+2) – and Rev. Whitney Bruno



Welcome to Worship

With

Little Current Pastoral Charge



biblegateway.com

**Twentieth after Pentecost
Blessing of the Animals
Sunday**

October 26 , 2025

Hymns for October 26, 2025 – Little Current UCPC

#1 VU 299 “Teach Me God to Wonder”

1. Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.

***Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.***

2. Let me, God, be open, let me loving be,
let your world of people speak to me. **Refrain.**

3. Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake,
in your world of loving my place take. **Refrain.**

4. Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
see you in my neighbour when we meet. **Refrain.**

~ ~ ~

#2 God of the Sparrow VU 229

1. God of the sparrow, God of the whale,
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise.

2. God of the earthquake, God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save.

3. God of the rainbow,
God of the Cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks.

4. God of the hungry God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life.



5. God of the neighbour God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace.

6. God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do our children say Joy
How do your children say Home.

~ ~ ~

#3. VU 296 “This is God’s Wondrous World”

1. This is God’s wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God’s wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God’s hand the wonders wrought.

2. This is God’s wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker’s praise.
This is God’s wondrous world:
God shines in all that’s fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God’s voice speaks everywhere.

3. This is God’s wondrous world:
O let me ne’er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God’s wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Don't
worry