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: Judith Mosher, Ruth McDonald, & Choir
**** an invitation to stand in body or spirit in the service**
~ BOLD PRINT- Congregational Participation

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost– September 20, 2026
10:00 am – Creation 3 – Friends of Turtles

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

Gathering & Prelude
Announcements - The Life & Work of the Church

We Approach God

Centering:

Water Acknowledgement

All life needs water. Nibi (water) is life. So we thank the North Channel for the gift of life. We thank Lake Huron for the gift of life. We thank the Anishinaabe-kwe who care for our sister and lead Water Walks. We thank the elders who teach Anishinaabeg and settler both to love water. We thank Creator for the gift of water - the gift of life – and we commit to protecting water.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Jesus told us whenever two or three gather in his name, he is among us. This means we know him in community. So we light this candle within the community to remind ourselves we are gathering in his name, and he is here with us.

- Light the Christ Candle.

Call To Worship:

One: This is a repeat after me song! Deep and wide
All: Deep and wide!
Deep and wide!
All: Deep and wide!
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide!
All: There's a fountain flowing deep and wide!

Invocation (unison)

We come to the fountain of God, where healing waters flow freely, deep and wide, for all life. Creator of all - we come at your invitation to drink and to paise you! Amen

Opening Hymn: *Like a Mighty River Flowing* **VU 267**

Learning Time for All Ages:-



- Friends of Manitoulin Turtles

Listening

Hymn of Illumination ***(TLUS 62) vs1 + refrain***

In all times past, in present ones,
the griefs of history take flight
before the rising Sun of love
– God's victory

Refrain:

Beloved friends, lift up your hearts,
the reign of God perceive:
from desert wastes a paradise
will bloom abundantly.

Scripture Reading.

Matthew 20:1-16
Psalm 145:1-8

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

Sermon:

"Jesus Invites us Out Of The Tragedy of the Commons"

Learning Hymn: **TLUS 165**
Larger Than Our Creeds and Customs

M4M – Your Generosity Matters.

Crossing Class Lines

One of the most meaningful parts of our small group Crossing Class Lines: 12-Week Bridging Team program, which ran from February to April this year in Peterborough, Ontario, was something very simple: we shared a meal together before we did anything else.

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

- **Rev Whitney** ***(The offerings are 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)***

Each of us are blessed by you, Generous God, with skills and abilities, time and resources that are as unique as we. We offer back to you a portion of all you gift us because we know you'll use these offerings to be sure all have food, water, meaning, care and love. Let it be so. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Creating God,
You have called us to be in loving relations with all the Earth,
living with respect in creation,
choosing love and seeking justice at all times.

Instead, humankind has acted in hateful ways,
exploiting natural resources,
choosing power and seeking wealth in the present over future abundance.

We need your help to fight for a better future!

Help to reawaken our love for Creation,
that is so magnificent that we, with all our creativity and knowledge, could never articulate it;
and so passionate that we, with the personal price and communal cost, would still fight for it.

Help to deepen our relationships and love for each other:
Affirming the wisdom of youth strikers, knowledge keepers,

climate scientists, guerilla gardeners, turtle watchers -
so that we are not discouraged by empty platitudes and naysayers;
and Growing our community of allies,
so that we can create a sustainable and faithful response to the imminent climate crisis.

For the sake of your majestic creation, and
For the love of all our relations.
Help us to fight for a better future.

For the sake of your majestic creation, and in love for all our relations, we offer gratitude today for…

For the sake of your majestic creation, and in love for all our relations, we pray for your healing, mending, loving light upon…

For the sake of your majestic creation, and in love of all our relations, we united our voices as one saying the prayer Jesus taught us saying:… (+1) **"Our Creator, 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, forever and ever." AMEN**

Going Forth Into The World

Closing Hymn: *"Down the River to Pray"*

Benediction & Carrying Out the Light:

A Prayer of the Turtle's Blessing

May the light of the Sun warm your path,
and may the Moon guide your dreams in peace.
May the waters cleanse your spirit,
and the winds carry your burdens away.
May the Earth beneath your feet hold you steady,
and the stars above remind you that you are never alone.
May your heart be as patient as the turtle,

your soul as radiant as the fire within,
your steps gentle upon this sacred land,
and your voice a song of kindness to all living beings.
May unity weave us together,
as the symbols upon the sacred shell remind us:
we are one circle, one family, one breath of creation.
And so, with gratitude, we walk forward in blessing,
under the gaze of the Eternal Eye,
held in the embrace of Turtle Island.
-- Anonymous

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

Choral Benediction: **105 TLUS May You Be Held**

May you be held,
may you be held
in the love,
in the love of God.

Go now in the peace and Love of Christ!

Resources Sourced:
(+1) - Revised from
A prayer for the Fridays for Future Climate Strike movement by Alydia Smith

And Rev. Whitney Bruno.



Little Current United Church PC

Welcome

To Worship



istock.com

"Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost"
September 20, 2026
Creation 3, Life with Turtles

Hymns – Sept. 20, 2026 for Little Current United Church

#1 VU 267 Like a Mighty River Flowing

1.Like a mighty river flowing,
like a flower in beauty growing,
far beyond al human knowing
is the perfect peace of God

2. Like the hills serene and even,
like the coursing clouds of heaven,
like the heart that's been forgiven
is the perfect peace of God.

3. Like the summer breezes playing,
like the tall trees softly swaying,
like the lips of silent praying
is the perfect peace of God.

4. Like the morning sun ascended,
like the scents of evening blended,
like a friendship never ended
is the perfect peace of God.

5. Like the azure ocean swelling,
like the jewel all-excelling,
far beyond our human telling
is the perfect peace of God.

#2 TLUS 165 Larger Than Our Creeds and Customs

1.Larger than our creeds and customs
in these earthen vessels caught,
past the bounds of human knowledge,
past traditions we are taught – God,
you ride the wind for pleasure,
spread new galaxies in space,
yet you pitched a tent among us,
taking human form and face.

2. How can one beyond all history,
past all human thought or art,
choose the creature you created,
make your home in human heart?
Wild and free, your spirit moves us,
cramped, confined by culture's claims;
teach us to embrace the wisdom
gathered in your many names.

3. God of love and truth and beauty,
move us past what we believe.
Use us as your earthen vessels,
emptied, ready to receive.
Fill us with the wine of blessing,
poured out, overflowing, free,
that our lives might be a witness
of a world we hope will be.

~ ~ ~

#3. Down To The River To Pray

As I went down to the river to pray - Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown - Good Lord show me the way
Oh sisters let's go down, Let's go down, come on down
Oh sisters let's go down, Down to the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray - Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown - Good Lord show me the way
Oh brothers let's go down, Let's go down, come on down
Oh brothers, let's go down, Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray - Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown - Good Lord show me the way
Oh fathers let's go down, Let's go down, come on down
Oh fathers let's go down, Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray - Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown - Good Lord show me the way
Oh mothers let's go down, Let's go down, come on down
Oh mothers let's go down, Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray - Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown - Good Lord show me the way
Oh sinners let's go down, Let's go down, come on down
Oh sinners let's go down, Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way

AMEN. AMEN.