

Little Current United Church Pastoral Charge
www.littlecurrent-sheguiandah-unitedchurch.org

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

Minister: Rev. Whitney Bruno

Guest Musician Today – Ruth Wilkin

Music Ministry: Ruth McDonald, Judith Mosher, & Choir

** an invitation to stand in body or spirit in the service

~ BOLD PRINT- Congregational Participation

Second of Pentecost – Indigenous Sunday - June 22, 2025

10:00 am at Little Current United Church

WELCOME: a special welcome to guests worshipping with us today. Please sign the guest book at the back of the church.

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*

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 Weabijong. 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:

Light should be understood as more than simply a generic light.

Light can be opened into the entire spectrum of colours.

All: Light can overcome fear and shadows and guide us on our way.

Light may reveal a particular vision, an insight, an inspiration that opens the doors to understanding life and relationships in new ways.

All: This morning we light this Christ candle, naming Jesus in our lives as life-giving in a full spectrum of dimensions. (+1)

- The Christ candle is lit.

4.

Thank you for the summer solstice.

Thank you for setting order to winter, summer, spring and fall.

Thank you for creating.

Thank you for creating the moon and stars, planets and sun, people and beings.

Thank you for not being the fire, but being in it.

Thank you for not being the wind, but being in it.

Thank you for not being the earthquake, but being in it.

Thank you for not being the lightning, but being in it.

Thank you for not being the world, but being in it.

With you in us, in all around us, and yet still more - we are secure.

We are secure because you are in the rebirth of plants after wildfires, and you are in the firefighters' love and desire to help.

You are in the communities displaced and the communities rebuilding. You are in the animals returning to the land.

We are secure because you are in the chaos of the world. You are in the rescue dogs seeking survivors, and in the nurses and doctors struggling to tend. You are in the volunteers giving blood and in the love organ donors give. You are in the helpers, the peace makers, the merciful and the just seeking all across the universe. You are not the chaos, but you do not leave us alone in it. You are with us and in you, we are secure.

We are secure because you are in the world, but not it. Your love gardens us, guides the cycles of our lives, and guards us as we pass from this life, to the life beyond. We are secure because your love will not let us go, and whether we live or die, rise or lay down, come or go, face good times or hard times, whether we are saints or sinners - you are our God and you love us so, so much.

We are secure.

So in silence, powerful silence, peaceful silence, we sit a moment and let your Holy Spirit fill us with your peace that doesn't make sense considering all the chaos... but which you give, and is real, and is abiding. **– silence –**

3.

HOLY SCRIPTURES

1 Kings 19:1-15a (*Elijah experiences God in the sound of silence.*)

Luke 8:26-39 (*Jesus heals a man filled with demons*)

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

And may they awaken in our hearts.

Sermon: God of Creation

***Learning Hymn: VU 507**

"Today We All Are Called to be Disciples"

Minute for Right Relations

- It's Indigenous History Month

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Commitment:

Out of gratitude to God, how can we keep from loving this world and each other? Out of love of God, because God so loves us, let us love one another and the world. Out of hope for peace, desire for justice, and determination to live into God's loving realm - let us give and receive in God's holy name.

(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.***

Commitment Prayer (unison)

God of pregnant silence, bless our offerings.

God of unexpected blessings, send us out to bless all.

God who blesses all, thank you. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Here we gather together in prayer.

Here we pray to you, Holy One.

Here we journey together on this Earthly trail for awhile

As siblings in Christ, As family.

Gathered as your family, we pray -

2.

History

100 Years of United Church History

- A Place at the Table



Call to Worship

We are shaken to the core by events around us - war, genocide, a reverse of rights for queers people, the environment, the poor, refugees, and so much more.

All: and yet God is the centre of our being.

One: As you settle into this place of worship, be refreshed, renewed, and ready to be born again.

All: This is why we gather: to be strengthened for our journey.

One: Sing God's praises, pray unceasingly, love abundantly.

All: With God's help, we can do these things and more.

One: Let us be convinced once again of the inclusive, compassionate ways of God's kin-dom,

All: in this place, and in all the places of our lives. (+2)

Invocation

Including and all-loving God, help us in our living and our loving. Let your love for us bring us peace and courage. Bless us with eternal mercy. Forgive us when we fall short of your teachings to love one another, and to love without fear. Help us recognize the fear that too often divides us and remind us that your love has no ends, and no boundaries. Amen. (+3)

**** Opening Hymn: 'Come and Find the Quiet Center' VU 374**

Learning Together:

- Who is God?



Listening

Hymn of Illumination: VU 498 vs 1

***God who has caused to be written your word
for our learning,***

***grant us that, hearing, our hearts may be inwardly burning.
Give us to grace, that your Son we can embrace
life, all its glory discerning.***

5.

Holy One, in our silence we thought of people and places, situations and worries, to-do tasks and gratitude. These we offer to you now aloud or in our hearts.

- personal prayers -

This we pray as Jesus taught us, and today, we say his prayer as translated by the First Nations' Version

O Great Spirit, our Father from above, we honour your name as sacred and holy.

Bring your good roads to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day - the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.

The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.

All the things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong, in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us. Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways. Aho! May it be so!

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Closing Hymn: “Jesus Hands Were Kind Hands” VU 570

Commissioning & Carrying out the Light of Christ

Into the summer sun, may you go with the love light of Christ.

Into the assurance Creator loves you, and loves all Creation, may you travel gently. Into the day the Holy Spirit fills, may you notice God's

love about you. Amen! **- Light is extinguished.**

Choral Benediction: VU 649 (Refrain only 3X)

Walk with me, I will walk with you

And build the land that God has planned

Where love shines through.

Go now in the peace of Christ!

Resources Sourced:

(+1) - Bill Perry, Gathering page 29, Pentecost 1, 2025

(+2) - Eric Hebert-Daly, Gathering Pentecost 1, 2025, page 30

(+3) – Gill LeFevre, Gathering Pentecost 1, 2025 page 30

Welcome to Worship

With

Little Current Pastoral Charge



Image credit: “The Prophet Elijah in Desert” by Alexandr Ivanov, 19th century
Somuchbible.com

Second of Pentecost & Indigenous Day Summer Solstice

June 22, 2025

Hymns for June 1, 2025 – Little Current UCPC

#1. VU 374 Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear out eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.
2. Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.
3. In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

~ ~ ~

#2. VU 507 *Today We All Called to be Disciples*

1. Today we are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make ploughshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last

2. God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,
we sow not peace but strife,
our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.
3. Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflict cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.
4. May we in service to our God
act out the living Word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all he seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.

~ ~ ~

#3 Jesus Hands Were Kind Hands VU 570

1. Jesus hands were kind hands, doing good to all,
healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,
washing tired feet, and saving those who fall;
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.
2. Take my hands, O Jesus, let them work for you,
make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;
let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,
till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.