



Laidlaw Memorial United Church

Celebrating our 114th Year—1912-2026

155 Ottawa Street North, Hamilton, Ontario L8H 3Z2

www.laidlawchurch.ca

905 544 6536 (not textable) laidlawuc@bellnet.ca

905 547 2021 (textable) revmoore@execulink.com

Our Mission: With respect, cooperation, and joy, through acts of love
that build each other up, we seek to share the light of Christ
as a Beacon from our corner in East Hamilton

Sunday Worship at Laidlaw

Epiphany Sunday

“Borrowed Joy”

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with Robert Barlow

Worship with us In Person, or by Livestream on YouTube, search “Laidlaw Live”

Sunday, January 4, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Livestream Starts at 10:55 a.m.

Livestream URL: <https://youtube.com/live/c0LLJ5Ir0Do>

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Worship in Person, or Live from Laidlaw on YouTube!

Please Log in to Chat; or send a text to 905-547-2021—Request a prayer, send your greetings, light a candle!



**Don't Forget to 'Like Us' on YouTube! 'Subscribe' and get notified of upcoming livestreams!
If you are online or in Person, please consider making an offering in one of two ways:
send an Interac e-transfer to 'laidlawuc@bellnet.ca' or press the 'On-Line Donation' button
at www.laidlawchurch.ca Thank you for your support!**

Ministers: All who follow Jesus Christ!

Musician: Steve McRae, B. Mus, A.R.C.T., Dipl. A.A.

Minister: Rev. Douglas C. Moore, B.Th., B.A. (Phil), M.Div.

Welcome and Announcements

God Gathers Us Together

Chimes and Candles Call

Call to Worship

 *Isaiah 60, Ephesians 3, Matthew 2*

The Lord be with you! And also with you!

Arise! Your light has come! Open your eyes; and see! The glory of God is shining on us—life is precious!

The rich variety of God's wisdom is now being revealed! With God, our hearts thrill and rejoice! Praise God!

Hymn of Praise

79

Arise! Your Light Is Come!

1. Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.
2. Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.
3. Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born, bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.
4. Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!

Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Prayer of Approach *(Unison)*

God of light and glory, you shine in all you have created, showing your wisdom in all its rich variety.

Help us to see and understand. Give us the joy of mysteries still unfolding, that we may see your wisdom in lifting the poor; helping the helpless; redeeming our lives.

God, give us joy in every imaginable way! In the life of Jesus, show us your eternal purpose; give us joy as we see the rich variety of your Spirit at work in each and all, Amen.

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism

with Robert Stanley Barlow

Introduction

As people of faith, we celebrate God's grace revealed to us in the sacred rite of Baptism.

God created this world—we are part of God's creation. In Jesus Christ, God offers us transforming faith.

In all the diversity of creation, we all belong to God. In all our differing practices, we seek the same Holy Spirit.

In the waters of Baptism, we see the source of our life; we seek the joys of innocence, repentance and forgiveness; we offer ourselves to God as Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Presenting Bob for Baptism and Membership

Profession of our Faith

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who came in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us, we are not alone, Thanks be to God!

Thanksgiving and Pouring of Water

Baptism in the Name of the Holy Trinity

New Member Welcome, Presenting Certificates

Welcome and Blessing

Anthem



Come Follow that Star

Words: Nancy Price and Don Besig, Music: Don Besig

We Hear God's Word

Young People! Gather at the front, or near your screens!

 *Matthew 2:11*

Gifts Fit for a King!



no. 15 in *All God's Children Sing*

We Three Kings

Words and Music: John H. Hopkins, traditional, Alternate verse 5

1. We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we travel so far.

Field and fountain, moor and mountain. Following yonder star.

Chorus: O star of wonder, star of night. Star with Royal Beauty bright.

Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never Over us all to reign.
3. Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising all men raising, Worship Him, God on high.
4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, Bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
6. Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia! Alleluia! peals through the earth and skies.

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The Lord's Prayer *(unison)*

Children are welcome to go upstairs with Drew for Sunday Bible Lessons, there are colouring pages and puzzles in the Quiet Room
Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

 *Isaiah 60:1-6 (Old Testament, page 690)*
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Psalm Response

Tune: Stuttgart 8787 moderate

 *Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14*

1. O God, give the king your justice, let the king's son know what's right!
May he judge the people rightly, may the poor in justice thrive!
2. May the mountains make us wealthy; and the hills teach righteousness;
May the king defend a good cause, lifting up those who are poor!
3. May the king give to the needy, and put down oppressive schemes.
May his rule endure like sunshine; like the moon, a constant light.
4. May the king be like a new rain; like a show'r that brings new life!
In his days, let right ways flourish, and peace, 'til the moon is gone!
5. Let the kings of all the nations honour him with gracious gifts!
May all kings fall down before him, all the nations give him laud!
6. They will see he helps the helpless; when they call, he saves the weak!
He redeems their lives from violence, life is precious in his sight!

Adapted from the Scripture and set in metre by Rev. Doug Moore

Lesson from the New Testament Letters

 *Ephesians 3:1-12 (New Testament, page 193)*
This is the Witness of the Church! Thanks be to God!

Lesson from the Gospel

 *Matthew 2:1-12 (New Testament, page 2)*
This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Borrowed Joy

Gospel Hymn

82

A Light is Gleaming

Refrain: A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright, living in the light.

1. When light comes pouring into the darkest place, it hurts our eyes to see the glow.
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears, our memories and tears. *Refrain*
2. When night is round us and every shadow grows, a star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say: 'God's light will ever stay.' *Refrain*
3. And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk. He showed us things we hadn't seen.
Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine, and this will be a sign: *Refrain*
4. So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n, and let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here asparkle and ablaze, - warming all our days. *Refrain*

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Christian Life and Generosity

Offertory

There's a Song in the Air
Words: Josiah G. Holland Music: Karl P. Harrington

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures, high and low;
Give thanks to God in love make known: Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Prayer of Dedication

In Jesus' Name We Go to Serve

Closing Hymn

579

The Church is Wherever

1. The church is wherever God's people are praising, singing God's goodness for joy on this day.
The church is wherever disciples of Jesus remember his story and walk in his way.
2. The church is wherever God's people are helping, caring for neighbours in sickness and need.
The church is wherever God's people are sharing the words of the Bible in gift and in deed.

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Response

964

¹Go now in peace, go now in peace. ²May the love of God surround you ³everywhere, everywhere, ⁴you may go.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!

Join us for Coffee Hour!

At 10 a.m. before worship And Also:
After Worship Coffee and Games in the Gym!
Join us for Wii and Games in the gym and conversations!
Everyone is Welcome!

*Celebratory Cakes are always welcomed at Coffee Hour!
If someone you love or admire needs a celebration, bring a cake!*



Announcements

OFFICE HOURS: Rev. Doug is 'officially' working 'half time' now! Regular Office Hours for Rev. Doug will continue Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays, 9 a.m. till noon! Rev. Doug continues to be 'on call', so, if there is a need for pastoral care anytime, call 905 547 2021! Coffee is on during office hours; you are always welcome to come by! We appreciate lots of help! Rev. Doug will now consider Mondays and Fridays a 'day off'. You may always call if there is an urgent need!

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2026 are at the back of the church today, please pick yours up! If you would like to have offering Envelopes for 2026, we are happy to provide you with a set—speak to Rev. Doug!

OUR THANKS AND GRATITUDE to The Mandarin Restaurant at the Centre Mall! They have graciously chosen to make a charitable gift of \$500.00 to Laidlaw Church, supporting our work in this Community. We thank them for their kindness, and for being a delicious part of our community, and a place to celebrate together! It is wonderful to have the Mandarin nearby now! Please express your thanks for their kindness the next time you visit the Mandarin!

This Week at Laidlaw

Phoenix AA (Wed 7 p.m.), Al Anon (Thurs 10 a.m.) and Narc Anon (Thurs noon) resume their meetings this week!

Office Hours! Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon! We will begin the process of putting away the Christmas Decorations—Coffee will be served!

Wednesday Office Hours! Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon! We will continue to clean up after Christmas!

Thursday Office hours! Thursday, January 8, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon! We will do some cleaning and get the bulletin and church ready for Sunday!

Rhyme, Rhythm & Reason the open mic for writers...all writers! Thursday, January 8, 2025, 7-9 p.m. at Laidlaw! Do you write songs, poetry, stories, fiction, pretty much anything? This is your open mic! And if you would like to just listen—it's a great night for that too! Refreshments available at modest prices! For more info, email anyamodel@yahoo.ca

Worship With Us at Laidlaw—The Baptism of Jesus Communion! Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 11 a.m. "Well Pleased" Lunch will Follow the Service! Join us for a winter lunch together! Steve McRae is at the keyboards. Bring the children to Church! —there are activities for the children every Sunday, and Coffee Hour at 10 a.m. and after Worship with games in the gym! Worship Livestream at https://youtube.com/live/vnhbxGA_eE8

Upcoming Events

BINGO! Saturday, January 17, 2026, doors open at noon, Bingo at 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be available! Join us! Bigger Prizes! 10 games for \$10, with a \$20 prize, two half and half specials, the first for \$2, the second for \$3. Children are

welcome to play if they have a parent or guardian with them!

Laidlaw Church Council Meeting: **Sunday, January 18, 2026, at 1 p.m. in the Stu Hamilton Room!** Everyone should be there, we will look at the finance report for 2025 and budget for 2026, and get the nominations report ready for Annual Meeting. It would be great to receipt reports for the Annual Report at this meeting!

FAMILY FRIENDLY MOVIE NIGHT, featuring BAD GUYS 2, **Friday, January 23, 2026, doors open at 6 p.m., movie starts at 6:30 p.m.** Wii, Lots of food and drink for sale—and POPCORN! —Fun for all—bring your family!

ASH WEDNESDAY: **Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at Laidlaw...** There will be a soup and bread supper available from 5-7 p.m., Followed by the Ash Wednesday Service at 7 p.m., all upstairs. Join us!

ANNUAL MEETING **Sunday, February 22, 2026, after Worship and Lunch!** Reports for the Annual Meeting Docket are needed soon! All Council Chairs and Representatives should write a report! Speak to Rev. Doug if you have yours ready or need help to begin!

PENNY SALE **Saturday February 28, 2026**—we are collecting prizes for the Winter Penny sale—if you have prizes, bring them, if we get more than we need, we'll keep them for the May sale, Thanks! ***We will also need baking for the sale—your donations are appreciated!*** **Doors open at noon. Draws will take place at 2 p.m. Winners must be present at the draws!** There will be a Penny Table with 75 prizes, a Mega Penny Table with 25 big prizes, and a Half and Half Draw. A children's table ensures a prize for every child, there will be a Bake Table by the UCW, and our famous Laidlaw Food Table! Join us for lunch, bring a friend! Your donations are needed! Please give gift cards to Kathy Rodrique! New items only (a rule under our License!) Penny prizes \$20-25; Raffle Prizes \$35 and up. Thanks!

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Accessible Entrance: Please see Rev. Doug if you would like to use one of the lifts, for safety and training purposes.

We appreciate help! with supplies... We need regular coffee. We have enough flour and Tenderflake Lard for now, thanks! Speak to Carol or Kathi if you'd like to help with these fundraising efforts!

Looking for conversations about art, life, culture, society, history, and religion? Catch up with all of Rev. Moore's appearances on THE SPS PODCAST—and while you're at it, please like, share, comment, and subscribe! The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/@VERYEDiTOriAL>

Book Korner—\$1 hardcovers, 50¢ softcovers, 25¢ magazines, children's books—new additions regularly!

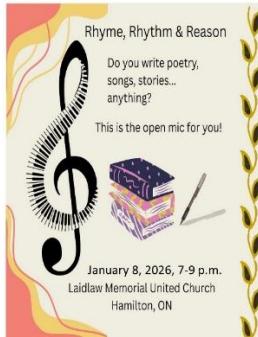
LARGE PRINT BULLETINS? We have Tablet Computers, for those who need large print!

Donation Box for Wesley Centre, etc.! Rose McGowan is making 'kindness kits' for men and women experiencing housing and health issues. Hygiene products, towels, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, etc., are needed!

Offerings and Donations to Laidlaw Memorial United Church, 155 Ottawa Street North, Hamilton, Ontario, L8H 3Z2 can be made by mail, Electronic donations can be made through Canada Helps, go to laidlawchurch.ca and click the “Donation” button (*a form will pop up on our website, and allow you to make the donation without leaving the Laidlaw Website!*); or by Interac E-transfer, use the church email address, laidlawuc@bellnet.ca (we have set this up for automatic deposit—no password needed)! This is a great time to go on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)! Call the Church Office at 905 544 6536 if you would like to go on PAR, or have a set of offering envelopes. *Please note: Offerings through 'Canada Helps' are receipted separately by Canada Helps.*

BUDGET NEWS! We are truly blessed by the generosity of our members and friends, and the good people who attend events and fundraisers at Laidlaw. The offerings of time, expertise, labour and treasure have us making amazing progress. We are in the process of preparing the 2025 Finance Report and 2026 budget. We know that going into 2026, we will need to ‘catch up’ national dues! A little extra from everyone makes a big difference! **Thank you to everyone who makes good on good intentions!** *Donations to the general fund are a great help!* Regular giving from those in person, and online, are critical to ensuring cash flow to meet expenses! We appreciate everyone doing what they can to help us meet the challenge! **You can help us in several ways.** Participate and promote fundraising events at Laidlaw. Helping with donations for events is a great help. Encourage people to come with you to Bingo, Penny Sales, Movie Nights, Concerts, and Sunday Worship. Consider increasing or starting a regular monthly gift for the General Fund at Laidlaw by PAR (call the Church Office at 905 544 6536). Inflation has affected us all, and our church too. Please consider an increase in your offerings and/or your monthly PAR donation. *We deeply appreciate when those who are gathering with us online also make a donation to help keep the Laidlaw Beacon shining!* Sincere thanks to everyone for their generosity! If you would like Envelopes and don't have a set, call the Church Office at 905 544 6536.

GRANT PROGRESS: **A Grant from the Ontario Anti-Hate Program:** the report has been filed, and an application for next year is in the works—no word yet! **The Grant from the Hamilton Presbytery Mission Council** is helping to create the ‘*Artword Studio at Laidlaw*’ *The studio is mostly ready now—we are looking forward to welcoming events in the space in 2026!*



The Visit of the Magi

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.
Matthew 2:11 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV).



Y	W	A	Y	L	X	P	H	C	H	H	M	Q	D	H
K	N	N	T	Y	I	G	R	Q	V	O	E	G	M	B
W	I	U	A	W	C	N	N	I	R	U	W	R	Y	R
O	V	N	R	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S	R	O	G
R	W	Q	G	X	T	R	V	E	K	S	A	O	M	D
S	O	M	C	H	R	I	S	T	N	M	T	E	K	E
H	R	O	V	B	G	H	V	L	M	S	H	S	O	H
I	S	T	Y	L	O	O	U	G	I	E	E	H	C	Q
P	H	H	U	A	D	U	O	B	L	E	B	R	Y	J
E	I	E	Y	Z	V	S	E	H	N	M	A	G	I	D
D	P	R	O	N	Y	E	T	V	A	E	G	H	L	Q
G	B	O	R	N	H	E	E	A	S	T	R	I	B	T
T	P	B	K	F	B	G	A	V	E	R	H	W	C	E
P	M	W	I	C	I	N	E	J	Y	C	S	T	A	R
M	M	B	Q	D	D	L	V	M	V	T	X	L	X	Y

PRIESTS	MYRRH	BETHLEHEM	KING	CHRIST
GOD	CHILD	HOUSE	INCENSE	MARY
STAR	MAGI	TEACHERS	WORSHIP	MOTHER
WORSHIPPED	EAST	SEARCH	BORN	HEROD