



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

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

“Fishing, Right Here”

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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

Sunday, January 18, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Livestream Starts at 10:55 a.m.

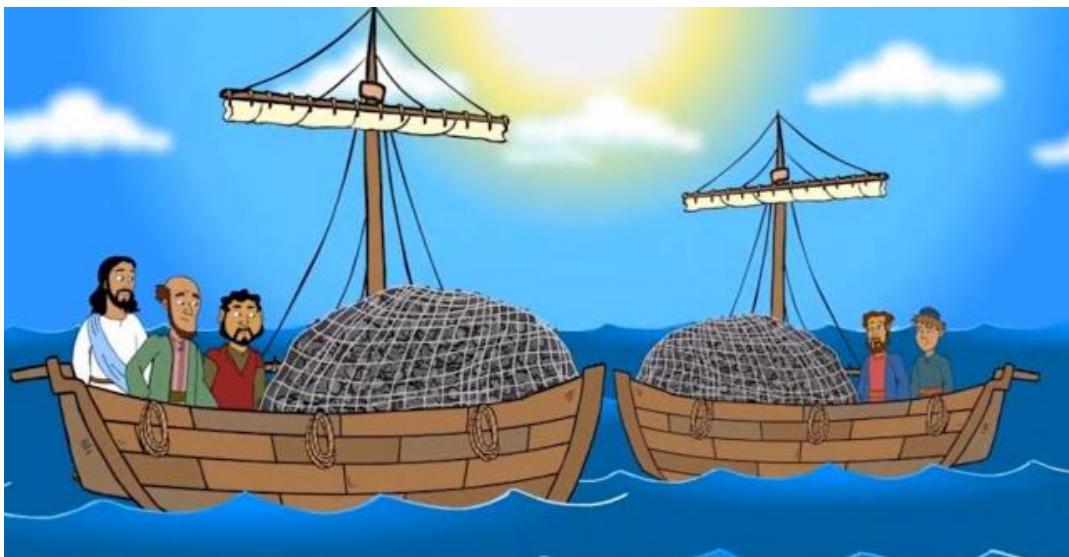
Livestream URL: <https://youtube.com/live/WVvDauswNrg>

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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.

At the Keyboards today: Olivia Brown

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

The Lord be with you! And, also, with you!

 *Isaiah 9, Psalm 27, Matthew 4*

Gloom gives way to light; anguish comes to an end! Joy comes when light shines in the deep darkness!

God is our light; the one who saves, our teacher! Jesus calls us: "Follow me; learn to share Good News!"

Hymn of Praise

In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

1. In the darkness shines the splendour of the Word who took our flesh, welcoming, in love's surrender, death's dark shadow at his crèche. Bearing every human story, Word made flesh reveals his glory.
2. Light of nations, veiled in history, born of woman's flesh and blood, calling to the depths of mystery restless hearts that seek the good. Healing every human story, Word made flesh reveals his glory.
3. Broken bread, sustaining us in sorrow, wine poured out to toast our joy; exodus and new tomorrow, life's full promise to enjoy! Gladdening every human story, Word made flesh reveals his glory.
4. All God's people, sing in jubilation of the birth that sets us free, telling of the revelation: Jesus, God's epiphany. Celebrate the human story! Word made flesh reveals our glory.

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Prayer of Approach *(Unison)*

God, fill this world with light and grace! Call us out of darkness into light! Increase our joy!

Encourage us to turn and follow the light of Christ. Teach us all your ways. Train our hearts to love and serve, so that we may leave behind hate, lies and violence.

Call to us, that we may turn and follow you! In Jesus, teach us the joy of sharing the Good News. By the power of your Spirit in us, increase our joy and set us free! Amen.

Anthem

For As the Rain

Words and Music: Berta Poorman and Sonja Poorman

We Hear God's Word

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

Youth and Scripture

Young People Praying

Young People Singing

Learning to Fish

 *Matthew 4:19*



Fishers of Men

Words and Music: Harry D. Clarke 1924

no. 41 in *Praises for Children*

1. I will make you fishers of men, fishers of men, fishers of men.

I will make you fishers of men, if you follow me. If you follow me, if you follow me!

I will make you fishers of men, if you follow me!

2. Hear Christ calling, "Come unto me!...I will give you rest!"

3. Read your Bible, pray ev'ry day...and you'll grow

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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 9:1-4 (Old Testament, page 638)*

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Psalm Response

 *Psalm 27*

Tune: Hollingside 7777D moderate

1. God, my light, the one who saves; with you there are none to fear! LORD, my stronghold in this life; of whom shall I be afraid? Evildoers may assail, tear my flesh, but they will fall; Though besieged my heart won't fear, though there's war my trust won't fail.

2. One thing I have asked my LORD; one thing is my heart's desire; To live always in God's house, see God's beauty, learn God's truth. God will shelter me from ill; cover me, or set me high;

God lifts me above my foes, I'll give praise with shouts and songs!

3. Hear, O LORD, I cry aloud! By your grace please answer me! "Come," my heart says, "seek God's face!" LORD, don't hide your face from me! Do not now in anger turn, you who have been all my help!

Don't forsake me, God, but save, take me up when parents flee.

4. Teach me all your ways, O LORD, lead me safely through my foes. Do not let their hate prevail,
stop their lies and violence. I believe that I will see all God's goodness in this life;
Wait for God; the LORD will save! Hearts of courage wait for God!

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

Lesson from the New Testament Letters

 *First Corinthians 1:10-18 (New Testament, page 166)*
This is the Witness of the Church! Thanks be to God!

Lesson from the Gospel

 *Matthew 4:12-23 (New Testament, page 3)*
This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Fishing, Right Here!

Gospel Hymn

563

Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

1. Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore looking neither
for wealthy nor wise ones; you only asked me to follow humbly.

Refrain: O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.

2. You know so well my possessions; my boat carries no gold
and no weapons; - you will find there my nets and labour. *Refrain*

3. You need my hands, full of caring through my labours
to give others rest, and constant love that keeps on loving. *Refrain*

4. You, who have fished other oceans, ever longed for
by souls who are waiting, my loving friend, as thus you call me. *Refrain*

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Christian Life and Generosity

Offertory

I Saw the Light
Words and Music: Hank Williams

Doxology

541

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

356

Seek Ye First

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.
Refrain: Hallelu, hallelujah.

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
3. We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

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

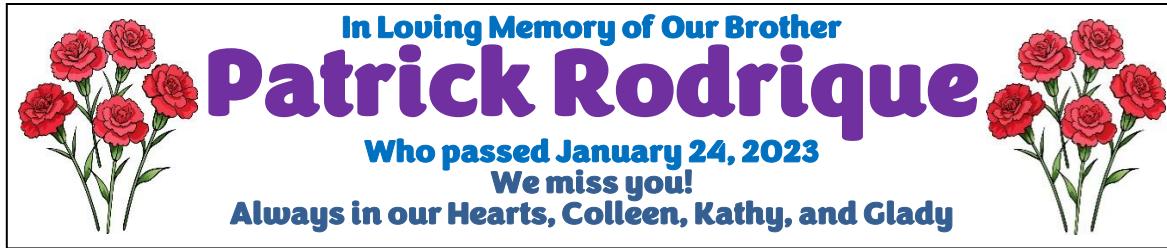
The Peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!

Join us for Coffee Hour!
At 10 a.m. before worship And Also:
After Worship TODAY: LUNCH!
A donation of \$5 for lunch is appreciated!
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!

Meeting at Laidlaw: *Phoenix AA (Wed 7 p.m.), Al Anon (Thurs 10 a.m.) and Narc Anon (Thurs noon)*

This Week at Laidlaw

TODAY: Loaves and Fishes Lunch, Sunday, January 18, 2026, after worship! We ask for a \$5 donation for lunch of Sandwiches, and deserts, cheese and pickles!

TODAY: 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!

The First Gathering of 'The Ladies of Laidlaw' will take place Monday, January 19, 2026, at noon! All women of the church are welcome to join us! Bring your knitting if you like, conversations, working on helping with events at Laidlaw, and Rev. Doug will make us grilled cheese and tomato soup for lunch!

Office Hours! Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon, coffee will be on, help is appreciated!

Wednesday Office Hours! Wednesday, January 21, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon! Coffee is on, help is welcomed!

Thursday Office hours! Thursday, January 22, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon! We will do some cleaning and get the bulletin and church ready for Sunday and set up for Movie Night!

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!

Worship With Us at Laidlaw—Fourth Sunday of Epiphany, January 25, 2026, at 11 a.m. "O, Brother!" Olivia Brown 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/fEWgEZ6dCTM>**

Upcoming Events

Rhyme, Rhythm & Reason the open mic for writers...all writers! Thursday, February 5, 2026, 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

BINGO! Saturday, February 7, 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!

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, **there is now a large selection of DVDs, they are \$1 each!**

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 know that going into 2026, we will need to 'catch up' national dues! *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). *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!



Fishing for People

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" Matthew 4:19 (NLT)

The puzzle is based on Matthew 4:18-22 (NLT).



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

BROTHERS	JAMES	NETS	COME	GALILEE
BOAT	PETER	WATER	FOLLOW	BEHIND
ANDREW	LIVING	JESUS	SITTING	FISH
WALKING	PEOPLE	JOHN	SHORE	LEAVING