



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 in Lent

“Always Beginning Again”

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

Sunday, March 1, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Livestream Starts at 10:55 a.m.

Livestream URL: <https://youtube.com/live/2knmMQrLhus>

The Livestream is Licenced for Copyright under:

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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

📖 Psalm 121, Romans 4, Genesis 12, John 3

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

*God, our Creator, neither slumbers nor sleeps! God, our Creator, calls us to trust God's promises!
God blesses us, asking us to be a blessing to others. In praise and worship, let us be born of the Spirit!*

Hymn of Praise

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To Abraham and Sarah

1. To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear, 'Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair. You need not fear the journey for I have pledged my word, that you shall be my people and I will be your God.'
2. From Abraham and Sarah arose a pilgrim race, dependent for their journey on God's abundant grace; and in their heart was written by God this saving word: 'that you shall be my people and I will be your God.'
3. We of this generation on whom God's hand is laid, can journey to the future secure and unafraid, rejoicing in God's goodness and trusting in this word: 'that you shall be my people and I will be your God.'

Prayer of Approach and Confession (Unison)

Faithful God, you do not sleep. You show us blessing; You teach us to bless! You ask us to trust you.

We confess: We resist the changes that would make things better. We try to buy or earn what can only be given to us as a gift. We imagine it's too late for us to be born again.

As we confess our sins, forgive us, God! Give us the courage to follow Jesus and find the way to live a new life. By your Spirit, give us courage to bless and not curse, Amen!

Assurance of God's Grace

📖 Psalm 121, John 3:16

Our help comes from God, who made heaven and earth!

For God so loved the world, God gave God's only child; whoever believes in Christ may have eternal life!

The LORD will keep us from evil, God will keep us safe!

Choir Anthem

Lord, Here I Am

Words: Fanny Crosby Music: Jay Althouse

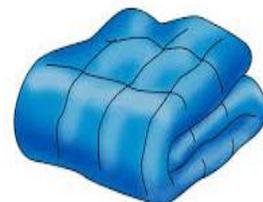
We Hear God's Word

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

Youth and Scripture

📖 John 3:4

Keep Your Baby Blanket



Young People Praying

Young People Singing

no. 41 in *All God's Children Sing*

Jesus Talked to Children

Words: Walter Farquharson Music: Ron Klusmeier

1. Jesus talked to children. He sat them on his knee. Jesus laughed with boys and girls, and helped them all to see, that God's world is a good place, a laughing place to be, and God's world needs our loving, our stretching to be free!
2. Jesus talked to children. He took them by the hand. Jesus cried with girls and boys, and helped them understand, that God's world is a hard place, a crying place to be, and God's world needs our loving, our stretching to be free.
3. Jesus talked to children. He named them each his friend. Jesus walked with girls and boys, and helped them learn to spend, for God's world is a shared place, a needing place to be, and God's world needs our loving, our stretching to be free.

Coda: **He talked and laughed and cried and taught to be free!** 3x

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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

📖 Genesis 12:1-4a (Old Testament, page 10)

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

 *Psalm 121—Unto the Hills Around*

Words: John Campbell 1877 Music: Charles Purdy 1860 SANDON 10.4.10.4.10.10

1. **Unto the hills around do I lift up my longing eyes; O whence for me shall my salvation come, for whence arise? From God the LORD doth come my certain aid, From God the LORD whom heaven and earth hath made.**
2. **God will not suffer that thy foot be moved: Safe shalt thou be. No careless slumber shall those eyelids close, who keepeth thee. The one sleepeth not, who slumbereth ne'er, Shall guard thee, Israel with most holy care.**
3. **Jehovah is indeed thy keeper true, thy changeless shade. Jehovah thy defence on thy right hand, thine own true aid. And thee no sun by day shall ever smite; No moon shall harm thee in the silent night.**
4. **From every evil shall God keep thy soul, from every sin: Jehovah shall preserve thy going out, thy coming in. Above the watching, God whom we adore Shall keep thee henceforth, yea, forever more**

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Lesson from the New Testament Letters

 *Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (New Testament, page 154)*

This is the Witness of the Church! Thanks be to God!

Lesson from the Gospel

 *John 3:1-17 (New Testament, page 93)*

This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Always Beginning Again

Gospel Hymn

O God, Whose First Creative Word

1. **O God, whose first creative word set universes into place, who stretched across the whirling void infinities of time and space; O speak to our chaotic day a word of ordered grace, we pray.**
2. **O Christ who came, the living word, proclaiming love's redeeming power, who drained the tempter's bitter cup and triumphed in earth's darkest hour; O speak to our despair and pain a word that kindles hope again.**
3. **O Spirit, ever-present word, God's agent of transforming grace, who seeks to enter every heart with light its darkness to replace; O speak within the hearts we raise a joyful word of faith and praise.**

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Christian Life and Generosity

Offertory

The Times, They Are a Changin'

Words Music: Bob Dylan

Offertory and Doxology

We give you but your won, whate'er the gift may be: all that we have is ours alone, we give it gratefully.

Prayer of Dedication

In Jesus' Name We Go to Serve

Closing Hymn

The Spring Has Come

1. **The spring has come, let all the church be part of it! The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it! New light, new day, new colour after winter grey. New light, new day, the spring has come, let all the church be part of it!**
2. **The sun is warm, let all God's children play in it! The world expands, let's spread the Gospel way in it! New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ. New leaf, new thrust, the sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!**
3. **The spring has come, new people are the flowers of it. Through wind and rain, new life is in the showers of it. New bud, new shoot, new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit. New bud, new shoot, the spring has come, new people are the flowers of it!**

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Response

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!

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!

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

This Week at Laidlaw

Office Hours! Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon, coffee will be on, help is appreciated!

Wednesday Office Hours! Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon! Coffee is on, help is welcomed!

Thursday Office hours! Thursday, March 5, 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, March 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 anymodel@yahoo.ca

Worship With Us at Laidlaw—THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT, March 8, 2026, at 11 a.m. “The Courage to Ask” 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! Livestream at <https://youtube.com/live/oz6ye40B-VU>

ANNUAL MEETING Sunday, March 8, 2026, after Worship and a Loaves and Fishes Lunch! Join us as we celebrate the progress we enjoyed in 2025, and our aspirations for 2026! Everyone is welcome!

Upcoming Events

BINGO! Saturday, March 14, 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!

FAMILY FRIENDLY MOVIE NIGHT, Disney’s ZOOTOPIA 2! Friday, March 20, 2026, doors open at 6 p.m., movie starts 6:30 p.m. Wii, food and drink for sale—and POPCORN! —Fun for all—bring your family!

The ‘The Women of Laidlaw’ will gather! Monday, March 23, 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 manicotti and garlic bread for lunch!

THE ACOUSTICS in Concert Friday, May 1, 2026, 7 till 9 p.m. at Laidlaw! Tickets are \$10 in advance by calling 519 732-2542, or \$15 at the door! See the details at www.theacoustics.ca

Easter Services

Sunday, March 29, 2026: Palm Sunday 11 a.m.

A Loaves and Fishes Lunch will follow the service!

Friday, April 3, 2026: Good Friday Communion 11 a.m.

Sunday, April 5, 2026: HOT CROSS BUNS and Coffee at 10 a.m.

Sunday, April 5, 2026: Easter Communion at 11 a.m.

There will not be a coffee hour after service Easter Sunday!

SEW Hungry Community Market Place at Laidlaw – Table Sale—Saturday May 9, 2026, Rent a table for \$40.00, bring and sell your stuff, buy other people’s stuff, keep the money! If you would like a table, go to the ‘Community’ tab on the church website—**book your table soon!** *The Ladies of Laidlaw will be service meat pies, and there will be a half and half draw by Laidlaw at the event this year! Come out and enjoy SEW Hungry this year!*

PENNYSALE—Thanks for all the help and donations for the February Penny Sale! The Next Penny Sale at Laidlaw will be Saturday May 30, 2026—we will need prizes! *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 Raffle 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 Women of Laidlaw, 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 \$15-25; Raffle Prizes \$35 and up. Thanks!

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

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!

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 auto deposit, no password needed)! 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.*

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!

Book Korner—\$1 hardcovers, 50¢ softcovers, 25¢ magazines, children’s books, there are 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!*

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. *Donations to the general fund are a great help*, from those in person, and online! 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!

Laidlaw Memorial United Church
at the Corner of Cannon and Ottawa Streets

BINGO

Saturday, January 17, 2026
Saturday, February 7, 2026
Saturday, March 14, 2026
Saturday, April 11, 2026
Saturday, May 16, 2026
Saturday, June 13, 2026

Doors Open at 12:00 p.m.
Bingo starts at 1:00 p.m.

Lunch and Refreshments Available
NEW, IMPROVED PRIZES!

\$10 for Ten 3up Sheets, \$20 Cash Prize per game.
Two 50/50 3up Games, \$2 and \$1 to play.
Cash Prize is half of game sheet sales.

Family Friendly Area and Adult Friendly Area
Children must be accompanied by a guardian of age 18 years and
Held under Ontario Lottery License

Laidlaw Memorial United Church
A Beacon in East Hamilton since 1912
at the Corner of Cannon and Ottawa Streets

Movie Night at Laidlaw Church

Friday, March 20, 2026
DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M. MOVIE STARTS 6:30 P.M.
NOTE: NEW, FAMILY FRIENDLY START TIME!

Free Admission
POPCORN, HOTDOG, CHILI, NACHOS, PIZZA AND DRINKS
WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE!

AN ALL AGES EVENING OF FUN (RATED PG)
Brought to you by the Young People at Laidlaw
Shown under Church Video License—it's all legal!

Laidlaw Memorial United Church
A Beacon in East Hamilton since 1912
at the Corner of Cannon and Ottawa Streets

EASTER WORSHIP

at Laidlaw Memorial United

PALM SUNDAY PARADE
SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026, 11:00 A.M.
THE PARADE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M. AT THE CORNER OF CANNON AND OTTAWA STREETS. THE PARADE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M. AT THE CORNER OF CANNON AND OTTAWA STREETS. THE PARADE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M. AT THE CORNER OF CANNON AND OTTAWA STREETS.

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE:
JOIN US FOR A SOUP AND BREAD LUNCH

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026, 11:00 A.M.
THE SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M. AT THE CORNER OF CANNON AND OTTAWA STREETS. THE SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M. AT THE CORNER OF CANNON AND OTTAWA STREETS.

JOIN AFTER SERVICE FOR COFFEE HOUR

EASTER COFFEE & HOT CROSS BUNS
SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026, 10:00 A.M.
SERVING THE FLOCKED SERVICE FOR A GREAT BREAKFAST OF COFFEE, TOAST AND HOT CROSS BUNS!

JOIN AFTER SERVICE FOR COFFEE HOUR

EASTER SUNDAY COMMUNION
SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026, 11:00 A.M.
SERVING THE FLOCKED SERVICE FOR A GREAT BREAKFAST OF COFFEE, TOAST AND HOT CROSS BUNS!

Laidlaw Memorial United Church
A Beacon in East Hamilton since 1912
at the Corner of Cannon and Ottawa Streets

Sew HUNGRY

AT LAIDLAW CHURCH

Saturday, May 9, 2026
Inside or Outside, depends on the weather!

10:00 A.M. TILL SELL OUT!
MEAT PIE, GRAVY, ONIONS, COLE SLAW
WATER, POP, TEA OR COFFEE

\$15.00 PER PERSON
TABLES & CHAIRS INSIDE AND OUT

JOIN US FOR THE COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE!
NEW THIS YEAR: HALF AND HALF DRAW!

Held Under Lottery License
Winning Ticket Drawn at 2:00 p.m.
Winner Must Be Present at the Draw

PROCEEDS TO LAIDLAW CHURCH ACTIVITIES!

God So Loved the World

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 3:16-17

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

LOVED
THROUGH
PERISH

GOD
SEND
ETERNAL

SON
WHOEVER
GAVE

CONDEMN
LIFE
HIM

BELIEVES
SAVE
WORLD