



Laidlaw Memorial United Church

Celebrating our 114th Year—1912-2025

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 First Sunday of Advent

**We Celebrate the Sacrament of Communion
“Hip Hope”**

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

Sunday, November 30, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

Livestream Starts at 10:55 a.m.

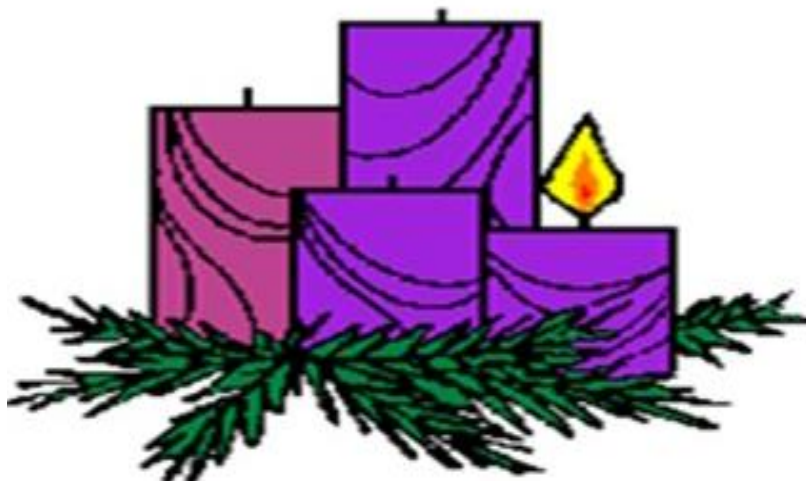
Livestream URL: <https://youtube.com/live/tYiafYYt0-k>

The Livestream is Licenced for Copyright under:

C.C.L.I. Church Streaming and Podcast Licence CSPL028178; C.C.L.I. Church Copyright Licence 2585699

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

The First Advent Candle:

HOPE

Isaiah 2:3-5

The Lord be with you! And, also, with you!
It's Advent, and Christmas will soon be here! Let's light the Advent Candles!

Each Candle has a name: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Let's light the first Advent Candle, the one named Hope!

One (purple) advent candle is lit...

Don't we blow out candles when we make a wish?

Hope is more than a wish; Hope helps us wait for things worth waiting for.

But it's not easy to wait—we get tired and grumpy!

God promised to send a teacher, to help us while we wait!

We believe that when Jesus was born, God kept that promise!



Carol of Praise

36

Angels From the Realms of Glory

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.
2. Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.
3. Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.
4. Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear, suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Advent Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of Light, you show us the path to peace and joy. We come in hope, seeking light and grace!

We confess: We're weary. We hide away, we isolate ourselves, fearful of being together, when being with each other does us good. We are comfortable with our familiar darkness. We resist when you lead us into new light!

God of Peace; let war cease; let hunger be satisfied. In the birth of Jesus, show us our best hope for peace, light and joy. By your Holy Spirit, make watching and waiting a joy for us, Amen!

Advent Assurance of Grace

Romans 13, Isaiah 2, Matthew 24

The time has come to step out of darkness into light! God will teach us God's ways, and there will be peace!

Now is the time to be awake—our salvation is near! Live in hope—God acts to save us at an unexpected hour!

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Communion will be served to you in the pew for In-Person worship, if you are online, gather bread and wine!

Anthem

Born to Set Us Free

Words and Music: Jay Althouse

Greeting

The Lord be with you! And Also with you!

Lift up your hearts! We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God! It is right to give God thanks and praise!

Words of Institution for the Bread and Wine

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

God, we give you thanks! You hold us accountable, and you promise to help us! You warn us, as you did in the days of Noah, that salvation comes at an unexpected hour!

We thank you! You give us prophets; your Holy Spirit is in us; we know and feel your salvation that is coming nearer every day! You wake us up; you keep watch with us! ה'שִׁיעָה Save us, we pray!

We share your gifts, this bread and wine, and what is ordinary becomes an unexpected sacrament of love, grace, and joy for us. In sharing communion, the peace that beats swords and spears into ploughshares and pruning hooks begins among us. Lead us to the day when all are fed, and everyone finds peace.

We wait for that unexpected day when you will fulfill all you have promised. We wait, and while we wait, your light and grace heal our diseases, and comfort us in our sorrows. In the light of Christ, we find the courage to live in hope, and work toward joy that welcomes everyone. Μαράνα θά! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on each and all. Wake us up. Show us that you are still among us. Give us joy to sing, and courage to live by the light Christ gives us. Do all you have promised, until justice and joy prevail. All glory and honour belong to you, God! Your salvation is near us! Let joy bring us to your house; let hope call us to walk the way of peace. Transform our attitudes and our hearts, until we experience healing, comfort, and joy in this season. Praise, honour and thanksgiving belong to you, now and forever, Amen!

Communion will be served to you in the pews, please wait and we will partake together.

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

We Hear God's Word

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

Youth and Scripture

📖 Matthew 24:2

Keep Awake!

Young People Praying

Young People Singing

no. 42 in *All God's Children*



Stay With Us

Words: Walter Farquharson Music: Ron Klusmeier

1. Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us, blessed Jesus, 'til the morning breaks again.
2. Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the grief.
Stay with us, blessed Jesus, 'til the morning brings relief.
3. Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the dread.
Stay with us, blessed Jesus, 'til the morning breaks new bread!

Reproduced with Permission under CCLI Licence #2585699

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 2:1-5 (Old Testament, page 631)

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

Psalms Response

📖 Psalm 122

Dix 777777

1. I was so glad they said to me "Let us go now to God's house" Our feet are standing in your gates,
O Jerusalem, built strong! Tribes arrive, as you decreed, to give thanks to God, our LORD!
2. Pray now for peace, Jerusalem, David's throne, where judgement sits! May all who love you prosper well,
bringing peace within your walls! Let the towers be secure, I will say, "Peace be with you!"
3. I too will pray, Jerusalem, for the sake of friends and kin. Because the house of God is there,
I seek your good, and I pray! Pray for peace with me today, Let us say, "Peace be with you!"

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

Lesson from the New Testament Letters

📖 Romans 13:11-14 (New Testament, page 162)

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

Lesson from the Gospel

📖 Matthew 24:36-44 (New Testament, page 27)

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

Sermon

Hip Hope

Gospel Hymn

Whispering Hope

Words and Music: Septimus Winner, 1868

1. Soft as the voice of an angel, Breathing a lesson unheard. Hope with a gentle persuasion
whispers her comforting word. Wait till the darkness is over, wait till the tempest is done,
Hope for the sunshine tomorrow, after the shower is gone.
Chorus: Whispering hope, O how welcome thy voice, Making my heart in its sorrow rejoice.
2. If in the dusk of the twilight, dim be the region afar, Will not the deepening darkness
brighten the glimmering star? Then when the night is upon us, why should the heart sink away.
When the dark midnight is over, watch for the breaking of day.
3. Hope, as an anchor so steadfast, rends the dark veil for the soul, Whither the Master has entered,
robbing the grave of its goal. Come then, O come, glad fruition, come to my sad weary heart.
Come, O Thou blest hope of glory, never, O never depart.

Reproduced with Permission under CCLI Licence #2585699

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Christian Life and Generosity

Offertory

Fly Like an Eagle
Words and Music: Steve Miller

Doxology

vs. 4, 55

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him—give him my heart.

Prayer of Dedication

In Jesus' Name We Go to Serve

Closing Hymn

22

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, God's Day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Response

35

² Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

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



OFFICE HOURS: Rev. Doug will be in the Church Office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. till noon. Other days will be by chance or appointment! 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 to do light cleaning and get things ready for events and Sunday Worship!

This Week at Laidlaw

Tuesday Office Hours, Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 9 a.m. Join us for coffee, conversation!

Wednesday Gathering Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 9:00 a.m. till noon! Join in conversation, coffee, projects! Lots of cleanup to do, help is appreciated! We will get getting crafts ready for Lunch with Santa, etc.!

Workday at the Church—Thursday, December 4, 2025, 9:00 a.m. till noon! —coffee, labours, conversation, Join us! Al-Anon and Narc Anon groups meet.

Rhyme, Rhythm & Reason the open mic for writers...all writers! Thursday, December 4, 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—Second Sunday of Advent, WHITE GIFT SUNDAY, Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 11 a.m. "Hip Hope" 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! **We will gather White Gifts for Wesley Urban Ministries, and for creating some Laidlaw Benevolent Fund Hampers.** If you know a family who could use help this Christmas, speak to Rev. Doug. **Worship Livestream** at <https://youtube.com/live/jyNUhmmBBAE>

Dr. Peter Banting Swingtet Concert Sunday, December 7, 2025, 7 p.m. at Laidlaw. Join us for a concert of swinging Christmas tunes. Pay what you can, \$20 suggested, proceeds will help balance Laidlaw's 2025 Budget, with our thanks to the generous musicians of the Swingtet. Light refreshments will be available. Be part of the event, bring a friend! If you can't come in person, there will be a livestream at: <https://youtube.com/live/cyKoPN2c4MY> and you can support the evening by making a donation with the 'Donate' button at www.laidlawchurch.ca We are grateful to Peter and Wendy Banting and the member of the Swingtet for their generosity in donating the proceeds of the event to support Laidlaw!

Upcoming Events

Laidlaw Turkey Dinner—Monday, December 8, 2025, Dinner at noon! A celebration with our United Church Women—Rev. Doug will bake turkey and dressing, our happy Christmas feast and Celebration!

Lunch with Santa, Saturday, December 13, 2025, 11:00 a.m., on Santa's knee at 12:00 p.m. Chilli and Hot Dog Lunch with Santa followed by pictures with Santa, included with your ticket! Tickets are \$8 per person over 6 years Children 2-6 are \$4 per person, under 2 years free!

No Coal Christmas Concert with Myke Hutchings and Friends: Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Laidlaw. Join Myke and his musical friends at Laidlaw for a concert of Christmas songs! Family fun for everyone—don't miss it!

Nicole Christian's Students Recital at Laidlaw Sunday, December 14, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

Seasonal Songs of Hope and Joy, Sunday, December 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m. Presented by Gary Santucci on Guitar and Pamela Blackwood Marques on Vocals! Tickets are \$25 online at ticketscene.ca

Music Stand Christmas Recital at Laidlaw Saturday, December 20, 2024, morning and afternoon.

Christmas Pageant at Laidlaw, Sunday December 20, 2025 at 11 a.m. Lunch Follows! If you would like to be a player in the pageant, see Drew!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION at Laidlaw, Wednesday, December 24, 2025 at 7 p.m. Join us for Carols, Communion and Candlelight as we celebrate a season of love, joy, and peace!

Our 1st ever LAIDLAW LIVE NEW YEAR'S EVE SOBER SPECTACULAR is happening Wednesday, the 31st of December, with: doors opening at 8PM: a big show with music, comedy, and lots of surprises at 9PM: and a sparkling-cider toast at midnight. Tickets are \$25. For more information, visit <https://www.laidlaw.live>

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!

Rescheduled! 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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Please go online and give feedback to Green Venture on the garden project at Laidlaw! Use your phone's camera to open the online survey! Let's all offer feedback, as a measure of our thanks to all those who supported this project at Laidlaw—see the poster below!

2025 Christmas Memorials Christmas Memorials will be published for Christmas Sunday and Christmas Eve. Donations this year will cover the cost of producing the memorial lists for the Christmas Sunday and Christmas Eve Services, and we will direct the rest of the proceeds to the Memorial Fund. Christmas Memorial Donations should be minimum \$10.00.

Benevolent Bell Tree – If you would like to contribute to Laidlaw's Benevolent Fund, 'purchase' a Benevolent Bell! At least \$5 in the envelope marked "Benevolent Bell" in the offering plate, and your name will appear on a bell on the tree. Donations support Laidlaw's Benevolent Fund—some amazing kindness and help has been made possible by this fund!



White Gift Sunday: is Sun. Dec. 7th this year. Laidlaw supports the Wesley hamper program, with our 'Mitten tree' and with the proceeds gathered on White Gift Sunday of non-perishable food items, personal items (toothpaste, brushes etc.), small gifts, new toys, cash donations! **The Knitting Group has knitting for purchase for the Mitten Tree, see Elizabeth!**

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

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

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!**

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.**

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!

We appreciate help! with supplies... We have decaf, regular coffee, and tea for now. We need cookies, and we will need baking for tinsel town! 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!

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! The Grant from the Hamilton Presbytery Mission Council is helping to create the 'Artword Studio at Laidlaw' is making excellent progress, lights and sound are being installed, and the blinds are installed!

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. Jehovah Jireh, we now look to meet December payroll by December 7, 2025, and we need to work toward paying at least a portion of the National United Church of Canada Dues by year end. 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.

Green Venture

GIVE US FEEDBACK
ON THE LAIDLAW CHURCH GARDENS

SCAN ME



Word loves to hear from you. Scan the code to leave a quick review to help us with our Green Infrastructure research!

No login required
Anonymous option available

LAIDLAW MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
A BEACON IN EAST HAMILTON SINCE 1882
AT THE CORNER OF CANNON AND OTTAWA STREETS
WWW.LAIDLAWCHURCH.CA

"A Christmas Tradition" featuring... **Peter Banting**
SWINGTET...



Sunday, December 7, 2025. 7 p.m.
at Laidlaw Memorial United Church
155 Ottawa Street North at Cannon Street
Pay What You Can. \$20 suggested
Light refreshments will be available
proceeds will help balance the 2025 church budget!
With Thanks for the generosity of the musicians!

Lunch with Santa

at Laidlaw Memorial United Church
155 Ottawa Street North at Cannon Street
Saturday, December 13, 2025
Lunch Served at 11:00 a.m.
Santa will visit at 12:00 p.m.!

Chilli & Hot Dogs served at 11 a.m.
Santa and Phineas arrive at noon
A picture with Santa, Christmas Craft Time
All included with Lunch!

Tickets:
\$8 per person over 6 years old.
\$4 for children 2-6 years old.
Children under 2 years old are free!

Get Your Tickets!
At the Candy Cane Bazaar,
November 8, 2025, 11 a.m. till 3 p.m.
or call the Church Office at 905 544 6536
Advance Tickets Only—Get Yours Early!



CHRISTMAS AT LAIDLAW


You're Welcome to Join us!
For These Christmas Events!
In Person and Online

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - COMMUNION
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025, 11:00 A.M.
JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS MUSIC, CHILDREN'S TIME, COFFEE HOUR, CONVERSATION, SINGS IN THE GIVE!

WHITE GIFT SERVICE, THE SECOND OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025, 11:00 A.M.
WE WILL RECEIVE WHITE GIFTS, FOOD, HATS AND MITTS, AND SINGING OF WHITE GIFT SERVICE.
JOYFUL MUSIC, CHRISTMAS MUSIC, CHILDREN'S TIME, COFFEE HOUR, CONVERSATION, SINGS IN THE GIVE!
PETER BANTING SWINGTET CONCERT, DECEMBER 7, 2025, 7 P.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025, 11:00 A.M.
BENEFITING ALL THE DONATIONS HELP US WITH EACH OTHER'S TOGETHERNESS. COFFEE HOUR, CONVERSATION, SINGS IN THE GIVE!
PAGEANT SUNDAY, THE 4TH OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025 AT 11:00 A.M.
COFFEE HOUR, CONVERSATION, SINGS IN THE GIVE!
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025 AT 7:00 P.M.
WE TAKE CARE TO HAVE YOUR SERVICES WELCOMING TO NEWCOMERS AND GUESTS.
MAKE YOUR FAMILY MEMORIAL SERVICE PART OF YOUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

No Coal in Your Stocking



A Hamilton Holiday Tradition
- 10 Years Strong!

December 13, 2025
2pm

Laidlaw Memorial United Church
155 Ottawa St. N.
Hamilton, ON

Pay what you can, all proceeds usually split between the musicians!

YOU ARE INVITED TO

SEASONAL SONGS OF HOPE & JOY

CARY SANTUCCI CLASSICAL GUITARIST

14 DEC 07 PM

PAMELA BLACKWOOD MARQUES SOPRANO

LAIDLAW MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
155 OTTAWA ST N HAMILTON ON L8N 3J2
TICKETS \$25 ONLINE TICKETSCENE.CA
<https://www.ticketscene.ca/events/57213/>

HOSTED BY **SEAN PATRICK SULLIVAN**

COMEDY BY
LUKE THOMPSON
LARRY SMITH
RYAN SIM

MUSIC BY
ANYA MIA
KERYGMA
TOMY TAURINO

PERFORMED BY
JEN FRANKEL
MIL REEDER
MUSICALS SET

PERFORMED BY
DOUGLAS
ALLEN BEINGS
STREET THEATRE
ANCIENT CIVILIZATION
THE END OF THE WORLD!

THE 1ST EVER LAIDLAW LIVE NEW YEAR'S EVE SOBER SPECTACULAR

WEDNESDAY DEC 2025
8:00 PM - 12:00 AM
155 OTTAWA ST N HAMILTON ON L8N 3J2
TICKETS \$25 ONLINE
TICKETSCENE.CA

\$25 COVER
FOR TIX & INFO:
LAIDLAWLIVE.EVENTBRITE.COM

