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

Laidlaw Memorial United Church

First Sunday in Advent

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Communion

"When Hope is an Asset"

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

Sunday, November 29, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Livestream Starts at 10:55 a.m.

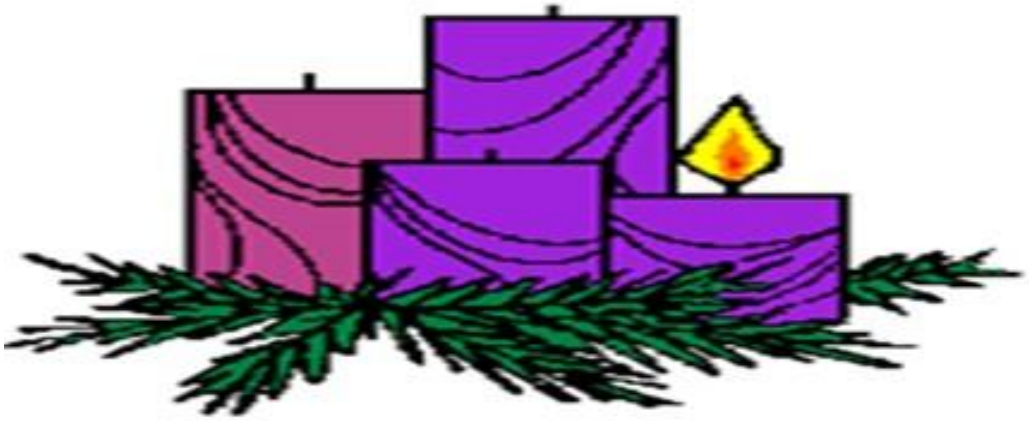
Livestream URL: https://youtube.com/live/zft1jAy6jtw

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

The Chimes Call, the Communion Candles are Lighted

Advent Candle Call to Worship 🕮 *Mark 13:33*

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! **How could anyone miss the signs that Christmas is coming?**
Jesus says simply expecting good things is not enough! **Jesus says we need to watch carefully and stay awake.**
Today, we do something—we light this candle named Hope! **Hope is more than wanting something good to happen.**
One (purple) advent candle is lit…
Hope is working together, making things better for each other! **God asks us to watch carefully; God will help us!**
If we watch and wait, we will see God's promise fulfilled!

Carol of Praise **2**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

1. **Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free:**
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
2. **Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,**
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
3. **Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a king;**
born to reign in us for ever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.
4. **By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;**
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Advent Prayer of Confession *(Unison)*

God of hope, you have surprised our ancestors with good and grace—surprise us as well!
We confess: We expect too much; but hope for too little. We become cynical, and don't bother to watch and wait. We are too hurried to pause, and feel your hand on us, shaping our future for good.
Be our God who surprises us by quietly tearing open the heavens and coming down to us. In Jesus the Christ, show us hope that prevails. Let your Spirit keep us alert and watching, Amen!

Advent Assurance of Grace 🕮 *Isaiah 64, Psalm 80*

Our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. **Still, we belong to God, whose hand is upon us!**
God's hand is strong to save—God does not turn away! **God has sent the one who saves us all!**

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Communion Anthem

Born to Set Us Free
Words and Music: *Jay Althouse*

Words of Institution for the Bread and Wine

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving *(Unison)*

We praise you, God! **You shake the mountains. You tear open the heavens. You make our world boil. Yet you do awesome deeds we do not expect. You come down to us. We wait for you to do what we cannot imagine.**

We thank you, God! **You come to us in great power and glory, yet you come to us in the Christ Child, born in a stable. You teach us—you are nearer than we imagined. You take us in your hands like the potter, shaping our lives into something good. In Jesus, you show us the power of forgiveness and love. You keep us awake, so we are ready when you do amazing things, again. הוֹשִׁיעָה נא Save us, we pray!**

We share your gifts! **In this bread and wine we remember the body and blood of Jesus. By these gifts, our lives are enriched. By these gifts we prepare our spirits for the days ahead, and for eternity.**

We are waiting! **You call us to be awake. You put hope in our hearts; and show us the way to joy. We wait for you to complete everything. We wait for you to bring healing of mind and body and spirit. We wait for you to bring light and comfort when we feel the darkness of loss and grief. We trust you to also do awesome deeds among us. Μαρανα θά! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

Pour out your Holy Spirit! **Show us how we can be gifts to each other in this season! Make us one in Christ, so that we may lack no spiritual gift as we keep awake, ready to rejoice in Good News of great joy!**

All praise and glory belong to you! **Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours! God, our help, our strength, and our hope, forever and ever, Amen.**

Communion will be served to you in the pews.
Please hold the bread and wine until all are served.
We will partake together.

The Lord's Prayer

We Hear God's Word

Children and Youth may gather at the front, or by your screen!

Youth and Scripture 🕮 *Mark 13:38*



The Fig Tree Lesson

Young People Praying

Young People Singing no. **24** in *Rainbow Songbook*

Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope

Words and Music: *traditional Cameroon folk song*

1. **Jesus came bringing us hope! Jesus came bringing us hope!**
Jesus came bringing us hope! Hallelujah for evermore!
2. **Jesus came showing God's peace…**
3. **Jesus came bringing us joy…**
4. **Jesus came showing God's love…**
5. **Jesus came showing justice…**

Reproduced from the Public Domain

There are colouring pages and puzzles at the back, and in the Bulletin, there is Sunday School Class with Drew too!

Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

🕮 *Isaiah 64:1-9 (Old Testament, page 694)*
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm Response **Tune:** Dix 777777

🕮 *Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19*

1. **Give ear, O Israel's shepherd God, who leads Joseph like a flock!**
Shine forth, our God, enthroned in pow'r, on the wings of cherubim,
You are head of all the tribes! Rouse your might and come to save!
2. **Restore us, God, let your face shine, that we may be saved this day!**
LORD God of Hosts, how long will wrath keep you from your people's prayers?
We have had enough of tears, all our foes taunt us at will.
3. **God, let your hand be strong to save, let the one you've sent save all!**
We will not turn away from you, save our lives, that we may praise!
God, our LORD, shine forth today, by your favour, save our race!

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

Lesson from the New Testament Letters

🕮 *First Corinthians 1:3-9 (New Testament, page 169)*
This is the Witness of the Church! **Thanks be to God!**

Lesson from the Gospel

🕮 *Mark 13:24-37 (New Testament, page 50)*
This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hope As an Asset

Gospel Hymn

Because He Lives

*no. **292** in Hymns for the Family of God*

1. **God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive;**
He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!
2. **How sweet to hold a newborn baby, And feel the pride and joy he brings;**
But greater still the calm assurance: This child can face uncertain days because He Lives!
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!
3. **And then one day, I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain;**
And then, as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!

We Respond to God's Word

The Prayers of the People
Invitation to Christian Life and Generosity
Offertory

Whispering Hope
Words and Music: *Septimus Winner, 1868*

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 **73**

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy
Words and Music: *West Indian Carol, 1945* **Arranger:** *John Barnard 1982*

1. **The virgin Mary had a baby boy,** *(repeat 3x)* **and they say that his name is Jesus.**

Refrain: **He come from the glory,** *(clap, clap)* **he come from the glorious kingdom.**
He come from the glory, *(clap, clap)* **he come from the glorious kingdom. Oh, yes! believer!**
Oh, yes! believer! He come from the glory, *(clap, clap)* **he come from the glorious kingdom.**

2. **The angels sang when the baby was born,** *(repeat 3x)* **and they say that his name is Jesus…***refrain*
3. **The shepherds came where the baby was born,** *(repeat 3x)* **and they say that his name is Jesus…***refrain*

Benediction and Commissioning
Choral Response **73**

Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer! He come from the glory, *(clap, clap)*
he come from the glorious kingdom.

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 after Worship
Join us for 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 usually in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. till noon. Other times by chance or appointment! Rev. Doug is '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, now officially 'half time' Mondays and Fridays are a 'day off'. You may always call if there is an urgent need!**

Meeting at Laidlaw: Al Anon (Thurs 10 a.m.) and Narc Anon (Thurs noon)

TAKE A LOOK! **There is a new series on Amazon Prime Video: 'The Greatest'** The series is a biography of Cassius Clay (Mohamed Ali) approved by his family. Some of the filming for the series was done at Laidlaw—you will see the interior of Laidlaw Church in the first and third episodes. We are happy to have been a small part of this important series—and it's nice to see the result of welcoming filming at Laidlaw—check it out!

This Week at Laidlaw

TODAY: Holiday Memorial Service at L.G. Wallace**, Sunday, November 29, 2026, doors open at 1 p.m., Service at 1:30 p.m.** This service welcomes everyone in our community. A time to remember and gather with others experiencing loss, grief, and recovery. Everyone is welcome!

RAIN READY HAMILTON **Fall Workshop with Adele Pierre, who designed the gardens at Laidlaw! Monday, November 30, 2026, Chili at 6 p.m., Presentation begins at 6:30 p.m.** In association with our friends at Green Venture!

Office Hours! **Tuesday, December 1, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon,** coffee will be on, help is appreciated!

ARTWORD STUDIO AT LAIDLAW: Artword Mini-Cine at Laidlaw **Tuesday, December 1, 2026, doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie begins at 7 p.m.** Come see 'The Pajama Game', staring Doris Day! **December 8, 2026,** come see 'Witness for the Prosecution, by Agatha Christi. **December 15, 2026,** Come see 'Alice's Restaurant', 'You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant'.

Wednesday Office Hours! **Wednesday, December 2, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon!** Coffee is on, help is appreciated!

Thursday Office hours! **Thursday, December 3, 2026, 9 a.m. till noon!** We will get the bulletin and church ready for Sunday, enjoy coffee together.

Kaz and the Music Stand Recital at Laidlaw **Saturday, December 5, 2026, from 10 a.m. till the afternoon.** You are welcome to stop by and listen in!

Worship With Us at Laidlaw—The Second Sunday of Advent—White Gift Sunday**, Sunday, December 6, 2026, at 11 a.m. "The Surprise of Peace"** ***Steve McRae will be at the Keyboards.*** Bring the children to Church! —there are activities for the children every Sunday. Join us for Coffee Hour before worship at 10 a.m., and after worship, and games in the gym! **Livestream at** https://youtube.com/live/u1vVNQnwPh0

White Gift Sunday: is Sun. Dec. 6th 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! **See Elizabeth to purchase Laidlaw made knitting for the Mitten Tree!**



Dr. Peter Banting Swingtet Concert **Sunday, December 6, 2026, 2 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 2026 Budget, with our thanks to the generous musicians of the Swingtet. Light refreshments will be available. Be part of the event, bring a friend!

Upcoming Events

Rhyme, Rhythm & Reason ***the open mic for writers…all writers!*** **Thursday, December 10, 2026, 7-9 p.m. in the new Studio 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 for sale! For more info, email anyamodel@yahoo.ca

Lunch with Santa, Saturday, December 12, 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 $10 per person over 6 years Children 2-6 are $5 per person, under 2 years free!

Annual Turkey Dinner with the Women of Laidlaw **Monday, December 14, 2026, at noon!** RSVP to Carol or Kathi so we know how many people to cook for!

No Coal Christmas Concert with Myke Hutchings and Friends: Saturday, December 19, 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!

Christmas Pageant is Coming! Pageant Rehearsal will be Saturday, December 19, at 10 am, Pageant Sunday and Lunch is Sunday, December 20 at 11 a.m. If you would like to be in the Pageant this year, speak to Drew!

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

2026 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.

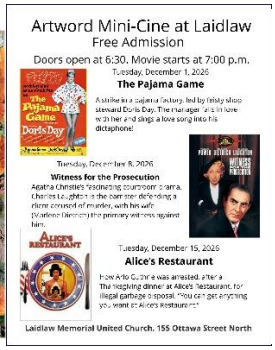
Benevolent Bell Tree – If you would like to contribute to Laidlaw's Benevolent Fund, 'purchase' a Benevolent Bell! At least $5 in the envelope marked "Benevolent Bell" in the offering plate, and your name will appear on a bell on the tree. Donations support Laidlaw's Benevolent Fund—some amazing kindness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



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 events and fundraisers at Laidlaw, and let people know they are always welcome at Sunday Worship. Consider increasing or starting a regular monthly gift for the General Fund at Laidlaw by PAR, Canada Helps or E-Transfer. (call the Church Office at 905 544 6536 if you need help to get any this set up).** ***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.**

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 for Coffee Hour and weekdays! We need Tenderflake Lard for baking, 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.! Hygiene products, towels, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, etc., are needed!
The Women of Laidlaw meat pies! Get yours before thy sell out! $7 each! A great meal at a great price! Speak to Nancy!
Offerings and Donations to Laidlaw Memorial United Church, 155 Ottawa Street North, Hamilton, Ontario, L8H 3Z2 can by 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.***









Ready for His Return

"Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come." Mark 13:33 (NIV)

Based on Mark 13:32-37 (NIV)



What time is it?

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

GUARD	DOOR	HOUR	ALERT	HOUSE
HEAVEN	SON	WATCH	ANGELS	CROWS
MIDNIGHT	FATHER	DAWN	ROOSTER	EVENING
DAY	TIME	SLEEPING	SERVANTS	KNOW