



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

Laidlaw Memorial United Church

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Communion

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Communion

Pick up a candle on your way in; gather bread and wine if you are at home!

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



Wednesday, December 24, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Livestream Starts at 6:55 p.m.

Worship in Person, or Live from Laidlaw on YouTube!

Livestream URL: <https://youtube.com/live/7mNe5mV6nuA>

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

(Rev. Doug will try to keep up with the messages!)

Don't Forget to 'Like Us' on YouTube! 'Subscribe' and get notified of upcoming livestreams!

Ministers: All who follow Jesus Christ!

Guest Musicians: Myke Hutchings, Nichole Christian and Evie Smith

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

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

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!



Laidlaw Memorial United Church Christmas Memorial 2025



In Loving Memory of

Len Ferguson, My Loving Husband
by Merily Ferguson

Antonio Scacchi, My Husband
Members of the Walsh Family
by Nancy Scacchi

Peter Crown and Esther Sweet
by David and Carol Crown

David Osterback
by Linda Lucas

June Burgher
by Jane and Drew Walker

Frank Whitehead, My Husband
by Marjorie Whitehead

Family and Friends
by Bob Barlow

Molly McDonald, My Mother
by Heather Shaw

Evelyn & Eileen Burris
Eileen & Jack McLean,
Ian & Evelyn Campbell
Julie and Larry Martin,
Fred Clarkson Aunt Kay,
Aunt Molly Mr. and Mrs. Dyna,
Violet Pam & Gordy Carey
Wendy and Bob Southall
Barb Lawrence,

Josie and Tiber Chontos
Kay Southall, Grandma Imrie
Stella Naves, my best friend.

Jodi Zimmerman
by Elizabeth Chontos and Family

Ferry and Connie Rowsell
Charlene Conkey
by Kathi Austin

Shirley Marie Moore
Charles and Florence Chambers
by Ben Moore and Rev. Doug Moore
Bryan and Edna Blair, Beloved Parents
by Peter Blair



Danial Aaron Glover, Beloved Son
by Cheryl and Dennis Glover

Ed VanMinnen, my husband
Harris Usher, my father
Rhea Usher-Finch, my mother
by Carol Courtney

Alexander (Junior) Gillis, Husband, Father
Stella and Jack Naves, Parents, Grandparents

Jackie Naves,
Roy Saunders, Sandra Naves
by Estelle and Eric Naves

My Loved Ones
by Myrtle DiBartolo

Our Loving Family
And Our Beloved Pets
by Peter and Wendy Banting

Wayne McNally
Loving Husband, Best Dad and Papa
Patrick Rodrigue, Our Brother
by Colleen McNally

Patrick Rodrigue, Our Brother
From your sisters, Kathy, Colleen and Gladys

Albert (Eddie) Redburn
and our Families
by Audrey Redburn

Wayne Folk, Beloved Husband, Dad and Grandpa
My Family
by Evelyn Folk

Doris Oldfield, Thomas (Larry) Padfield
Gillian Howarth, Joan Bond,
Sharon Jean Larocque, Joan Redburn,
Dave Pashko, Nick Audician,
Maurice (Moe) Bond
by Janet Bond

Geoffrey Lawrence, Loving Husband
Wyn and Betty Cooke, Beloved Parents
Eileen Burris, Best Friend
by Dorothy Lawrence

Welcome and Announcements

God Gathers Us Together

Chimes and Candles Call

Advent Candle Call to Worship

📖 Isaiah 9:2, Luke 2:10-11

Christmas Eve has come!

The advent wreath will burn brightly tonight!

'Hope', 'Peace', 'Joy' and 'Love' have led us to the night of Jesus' birth!

Tonight, we light the Christ Candle. Tonight, we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

The hope, peace, joy and love candles are re-lit, the Christ (white) candle is lit...

Isaiah spoke of a great light that would shine on all the people.

Angels told shepherds who had seen a great light that a child was born.

That Child, born in a stable, brings peace and love to people everywhere.

When Mary gave birth to Jesus, the years of waiting were over.

There was good news of great joy: the Messiah was born!

We believe Jesus has come among us as our Wonderful Counsellor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



Thanks be to God!

Carol of Praise

64

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words: Phillips Brooks Music: Louis H. Redner

1. **O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**
2. **For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.**
3. **How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the wonders of His heaven. No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin, Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.**
4. **O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

Christmas Prayer of Confession *(Unison)*

God of light and joy, we hear you, and tremble like shepherds. But your angels tell us not to be afraid, and they send us on a journey.

We confess: Peace on earth, good will toward all people seems an impossible dream. We're used to violence and fear. Help us look forward to the day when your kingdom of peace and light comes.

God of light, shine the light of your love and forgiveness on us tonight. In the child born tonight, let us see love and hope. By your Spirit, give us courage to hope for joy and peace, Amen!

Assurance of God's Grace

📖 Isaiah 9, Titus 2, Luke 2

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us!

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace!

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!

We see the sign—a babe in a manger, and the angels, singing.

Anthem

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Words and Music: Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne Arranger: Harry Simeone

We Hear God's Word

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

Youth and Scripture

📖 Luke 2:1

Young People Praying

A Tax on Christmas!



Jesus our Brother Kind and Good


Words: Robert Davis Music: Medieval French Melody

1. Jesus our brother, kind and good, was humbly born in a stable of wood.
Friendly beasts around him stood, Jesus our brother, kind and good.
2. I said the donkey, shaggy and brown, I carried his mother up hill and down,
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town, I said the donkey, shaggy and brown.
3. I, said the cow all white and red, I gave him my manger for his bed,
I gave him my hay to pillow his head, I, said the cow all white and red.
4. I, said the sheep with curly horn, I gave him my wool for his blanket warm,
He wore my coat on Christmas morn, I, said the sheep with curly horn.
5. I, said the dove from the rafters high, Cooed him to sleep that he should not cry,
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I—I, said the dove from the rafters high.
6. Every beast by some good spell, In the stable dark was glad to tell
Of the gift he gave Immanuel: The gift he gave Immanuel.

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There are colouring pages and puzzles for the children at the back, and in the Bulletin, if you print it out!

Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

 *Isaiah 9:2-7 (Hebrew Bible, page 638)*

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Psalm Response

Melody: God Rest You Merry 868686 and refrain

Psalm 96


1. Sing to the LORD a brand new song; all earth sing to the LORD! Sing to the LORD and bless God's name—
salvation tell again! Declare God's glorious, marv'ulous works in every peopled place!

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy!

2. For great is God who came to us, and greatly to be praised! All other gods are idol stones—
our God the heavens made! Our God is strength, and beauty too—these are his holy place! ...
3. Tell of God's glory and God's strength all families may join in! Give God the praise we ought to give,
with offerings and our lives! Worship our God in Holy hush—bowed heads and trembling hearts.
4. Let every nation know our God—declare "Our God is King!" Creation stands—the earth remains—
God's justice will prevail! Let heaven be glad, the earth rejoice, let roaring seas give praise!
5. Let every field and flower thrive! Let forest trees rejoice! For God, the Lord is coming now,
and God will judge the earth! Our God will rule in righteousness, we all will see God's truth!


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

Lesson from the New Testament Letters

 *Titus 2:11-14 (New Testament, page 215)*

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

Lesson from the Gospel

 *Luke 2:1-20 (New Testament, page 58)*

The Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, O Christ!

Christmas Eve Meditation

After the Angels...

Gospel Hymn

Joy to the World

Words: Isaac Watts 1719 Music: George Frideric Handel

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King! Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, & heaven, & heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns: let all their songs employ, while fields & floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins & sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground: he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the earth with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Christian Life and Generosity

Silver Bells

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; what I can I give him—give him my heart.

Prayer of Dedication

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn

74

What Child Is This

Words: William Chatterton Dix 1865 Music: English Melody, 1871

1. What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
2. Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
3. So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

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)*

We praise you, God! In this dark season, you do wondrous things—you send a child to bring us light and joy! You send a choir of angels to teach us a new song to sing.
We thank you, God, for Jesus, who increases our joy, brings us justice, and teaches us to do what is right and good. We thank you for shepherds who hear angels, and for parents who put their hopes in a child who is born. Let good news of great joy for all people reach us all. **הוֹשִׁיעָהּ** Save us, we pray!
We share the gift you give us: your own self, heart and soul, body, and blood—you give your life to end oppression, violence and fear—you give your life so love may shine. You call us to follow you. You give us a new life. You show us true peace and joy!
We wait for the day when we will sing with the angels! We wait as you comfort each one who walks in darkness and grief. We wait as your peace and justice bring healing to each of us who is sick or injured. We watch in wonder as you bring enduring faith and endless joy. **Μαράνα Θά!** Come quickly, Lord Jesus!
Pour out your Holy Spirit on each and all of us as we seek to welcome and share the light of Christ this night and always. Let your Spirit bless our hopes and give us courage!
All glory and honour belong to you, God! You are the one who loves us, and leads us to joy and peace; in this sacred Communion, we express our thanks and praise, and look forward to healing, comfort and joy. Thanksgiving, praise and honour belong to you now, and forever, Amen!

We will partake together

The Lord's Prayer

960

In Jesus' Name We Go to Serve

Thanksgiving for the Light of Christ

With a word of thanks, the flame from the Christ Candle will be passed.
When you receive the flame, please pass it carefully to those near you.

Closing Hymn

67

Silent Night! Holy Night!

With Myke Hutchings on Guitar

Words: Joseph Mohr 1792-1848 Music: Franz Xavier Gruber 1787-1863

1. Silent night! holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace!
2. Silent night! holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight: glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia, Christ, the Saviour, is born; Christ the Saviour is Born!
3. Silent night! holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth; Jesus, Lord at thy birth!

From Silent Night! Holy Night!

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth; Jesus, Lord at thy birth!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

*At the conclusion of the service, please extinguish the candles.
Please place your candle in the boxes provided in the Narthex as you leave!*

*Please know that everyone who wishes to do so,
is welcome to partake in Communion this evening.*
Thank you for sharing Christmas Eve with us!
You and your family are always welcome at Laidlaw!

Announcements

OFFICE HOURS: Rev. Doug will be in the Church Office Tuesday and Wednesday this week. **Between Christmas and New Years, Office Hours will be suspended. Rev. Doug will return to the Office on Friday, January 2, 2026, from 9 a.m. till noon!** 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!

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!

A SWINGING THANK YOU to the Dr. Peter Banting Swingtet! It's not Christmas at Laidlaw without the Dr. Peter Banting Swingtet bringing the cheer of the season to Laidlaw, a beloved tradition for many years now. This year, Ruth St. Armand, Chris Walton, John Stephen, James Locke, Urmas Soomet, David Crown, Jeff Goodall, and Keith Kindree kindly and generously donated their time and talent to bring Christmas to Laidlaw on Sunday, December 7, 2025. **In 2025, with the Spring Concert proceeds of \$522.00, and Christmas concert proceeds of \$401.85 the Swingtet has graciously contributed a total of \$923.85 to help Laidlaw keep the beacon shining! Our thanks and appreciation for the Swingtet's amazing talent, kindness, and contribution, and to Dr. Banting for his leadership and generosity!**

This Week at Laidlaw

Worship With Us at Laidlaw—The First Sunday of Christmas! Sunday, December 28, 2025, at 11 a.m. “Hospitality” *Olivia Brownteve 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! **Pageant Lunch will Follow Worship on Pageant Sunday! Worship Livestream at <https://youtube.com/live/HzLN5pJc4eI>**

Upcoming Events

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://laidlawlive.eventbrite.com>

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

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!

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!

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 have decaf, regular coffee, and tea for now. 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!

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—see the poster below!

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>

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. Jehovah Jireh, we have met the December payroll, but there will be legal expenses to address in December, as well as catching up National Church dues, sigh! 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! The Grant from the Hamilton Presbytery Mission Council is helping to create the '*Artword Studio at Laidlaw*' We are making excellent progress, lights and sound are being installed, and the blinds are installed!

Green Venture

GIVE US FEEDBACK
ON THE LAIDLAW CHURCH GARDENS

SCAN ME



We'd love 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

HOSTED BY
SEAN PATRICK SULLIVAN

COMEDY BY
JASON THOMPSON
WHEELCHAIR SAL

MUSIC BY
ANYA MIA KERYGMA

STORY BY
JEM FRANKEL
NINE DERBECKER

INTRO BY
THE REVEREND DOUGLAS MOORE

SNACKS, ENTREES, DESSERTS, MOCKTAILS & BEVERAGES AVAILABLE A LA CARTE

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

WED 31ST DEC 2025
09:00pm - 12:00am
155 OTTAWA STREET NORTH
HAMILTON, ONTARIO L8H 3Z2
TICKETS \$25
WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT THE DOOR
OR ONLINE AT WWW.LAIDLAWLIVEEVENTS.COM

\$25 ONLINE OR AT THE DOOR
NOVEMBER 15TH
RECRUITMENT EVENT



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 \$3 to play.
Cash Prize is half of game sheet sales.
Family Friendly Area and Adult Friendly Area
Children must be accompanied by a parent at least 18 years old.
Held under Ontario Lottery License

The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 2:1-20



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

SAVIOR
CAESAR
CHILD

CENSUS
SON
SHEPHERDS

MARY
JOSEPH
ANGEL

MANGER
MESSIAH
BETHLEHEM

BORN
ROOM
BABY