

Join us for
Christmas Eve Worship
 Saturday, December 24

❄️ **4:30 p.m.: Family Service**
(Come early!)

The children's choirs lead an informal, interactive service, ideal for children, families and the young at heart. Music by the Chorister and Carol Choirs, Genesis and Revelation Ringers. Childcare provided in the Nursery for children 3 years and younger.

❄️ **7:00 p.m.: Candlelight Service**

The Rev. Dr. Mark Thomas preaches, with music from the Carillon Ringers and the Youth Choir, featuring fresh arrangements of beloved Christmas carols. The service concludes with all singing *Silent Night* by candlelight. Childcare provided in the Nursery for children 3 years and younger.

❄️ **9:40 p.m.: A Nativity Concert**

featuring soloists, string quartet and organ, featuring inspiring music from around the world.

❄️ **10:00 p.m.: Candlelight Communion Service**

The Rev. Dr. Mark Thomas preaches, with anthems by the Chancel Choir, with String Quartet, and Alicia Matkovich singing *O Holy Night*. The service concludes with all singing *Silent Night* by candlelight. *No childcare.*

Christmas Worship
 Sunday, December 25

❄️ **10:00 a.m.: Service of Lessons and Carols** – No Good Shepherd, so plan to enjoy the music with your children! Childcare provided in the Nursery for children 2 years and younger.

The church will be closed
Monday, December 26 &
Tuesday, December 27.

“Long lay the world in sin and error pining
 Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.”

Around this time of year life seems to be an endless “to do” list;

- Making Christmas cookies
- Shopping for presents
- Putting presents in the mail
- Writing Christmas cards (uuummmm about those...maybe “Happy New Years!” cards?)
- Finishing end of year reports/evaluations/budgets
- Getting ready for company or preparing to travel
- Not to mention Christmas parties...all. The. Christmas parties...



In the mad dash of the holidays it's hard to slow down, take a breath and remember that we're in Advent; a season of waiting.

Growing up in the church I didn't understand why we tell the same stories every year...if you've been in the church for a while, chances are you know the stories pretty well...So why do we need to re-tell them? And what's the point of waiting if we know how the story ends?

But it's amazing how even familiar stories can sneak up and become new.

One of my favorite hymns is *O Holy Night*. But it was two years ago that I really noticed the line “Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.”

“And the soul felt its worth”...

When God entered creation we learned just how much our souls are worth...it wasn't enough for prophets to come with commandments and lessons on what it means to be God's people. It wasn't even enough for angels to come singing about the Glory of God...

God needed to come. Not in a fiery chariot or with legions of angels but in the flesh, through the soft cries of a baby.

In the midst of buying presents, going to Christmas performances and holiday parties—we're called to pause...to actively wait...because we are worth more than the gifts we give, parties we plan, or vacations we go on.

Light is coming and it's going to enter into the messy reality of our daily lives because our souls are worth more than we could ever imagine—God has chosen us and God is coming—let's wait together.

Peace,

DID YOU KNOW...

Music is unity. Ladue Chapel's pledges and gifts support a brilliant Music Ministry. More than 150 of our children, youth, and adults perform the music of the season in Choir accompanied by organ, piano and bells. Together, as we listen to them and sing with them, don't you hear us uniting in faith?

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

~Psalm 95:1

Annual Women's Retreat January 27-28, 2017



This year's retreat will be at the Marianist Retreat Center in Eureka, about a 30-minute drive from church.

This year the theme is "be"—throughout the bible we hear this small word again and again: "be still and know I am God", "do not be anxious", "do not be afraid". These are all easily said rather than done. What does it mean to "be still" when or

schedules are packed and there aren't enough hours in the day? How can we not be anxious when there are so many demands on our time and big decisions to make about our futures? How can we not be afraid when so many things seem uncertain and so much is out of our control?

Come join us as we look at different stories and talk about how God calls us into relationship and what that means for us to "be" in everyday life.

Brochures are available on the Welcome Table in the Gathering Place. To register, you must fill out the form inside the brochure and mail or hand in the completed form to the church office OR go to laduechapel.org/connect/adult-fellowship/womens-fellowship/womens-retreat/ to register online. For more information, contact Mel Smith at 314-993-4771 ext 3105 or msmith@laduechapel.org.

Stewardship Pledge Drive 2017

Commitment Sunday has come and gone and we are striving to achieve 100% participation from our members in the 2017 Pledge Drive. Please take a few minutes to watch the videos at laduechapel.org/give/stewardship/ and then prayerfully consider making a five percent increase over your 2016 pledge.

If you have already sent your pledge in, I thank you for your commitment. If not, please send it in as soon as possible...there is still time to do so. To make the process simple, please donate online through the Ladue Chapel website by using laduechapel.org/give/stewardship-commitment/.

Thank you and have a blessed holiday season.

-Tom Sargent

Cares & Concerns

Recently Hospitalized or Recovering at Home: If you are aware of a member in the hospital or anticipating a hospitalization, please call the church office at 314-993-4771 ext 0 or speak to one of the pastors. We are available to offer a ministry of care, compassion, and prayer in times of need.

CALENDAR

An extended calendar is available at www.laduechapel.org

Thursday, December 22	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Rm
Friday, December 23	7:00 am	Food Bank	Service Bldg
Saturday, December 24	4:30 pm	Family Carol Service w/ childcare	Sanct
	5:45 pm	Carillon Ringers	Choir Rm
	7:00 pm	Candlelight Service w/ childcare	Sanct
	10:00 pm	Candlelight Communion Service	Sanct
Sunday, December 25	10:00 am	Lessons & Carols Christmas Worship	Sanct
Monday, December 26	7:00 am	Food Bank	Service Bldg
		<i>Staff Holiday—Church Closed</i>	
Tuesday, December 27		<i>Staff Holiday—Church Closed</i>	
Wednesday, December 28	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study	Leutwiler
	12:00 pm	Grief Support Group Fireside	
Thursday, December 29	8:30 am	St. Patrick's Casseroles Due	
Friday, December 30	7:00 am	Food Bank	Service Bldg
Saturday, December 31		<i>No Church Events Scheduled</i>	
Sunday, January 1	10:00 am	Worship w/ Communion	Sanct
Monday, January 2	7:00 am	Food Bank	Service Bldg
		<i>Staff Holiday—Church Closed</i>	
Tuesday, January 3	9:15 am	Staff Calendar Mtg	Leutwiler
	9:30 am	Program Staff Mtg	Staff CR
	10:30 am	WA Bandages for Developing Countries	FH-N
	12:00 pm	WA Brown Bag Lunch	FH
	1:00 pm	Women's Study Grp	Bickel
Wednesday, January 4	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study	Leutwiler
	5:30 pm	WOW Dinner	FH
	6:15 pm	Healing & Wholeness	FH
	7:00 pm	Board of Deacons	Gulick
	7:00 pm	Worship & Music	
		Decoration Removal	Various
Thursday, January 5	6:30 pm	Chapel Ringers	Fireside
	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Rm

Fast Forward

SAVE THE DATE!

Lectio Divina

Sunday, January 8

12:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room





**DINNER, FELLOWSHIP,
MUSIC, AND WORSHIP
WOW!**

Drop in on Wednesdays for dinner between
5:30-6:15 pm Fellowship Hall.

Dinner will be catered by Carolyn's.
Worship to follow at 6:15 pm.
Bring A Friend!

Cost

Adults \$10; Students (10-17) \$5
Children (under 9) are free
Guests eat free!

Please RSVP at 314-993-4771 ext 0.

January 4, 2016

Back to the Diet!

Soup, salad, combread, cakes

The Healing & Wholeness service will be
led by Rev. Dieter Heinzl.



**2016 Contribution & Stock
Gift Deadline**

For questions about the
following, please call Suzanne
Williams at 314-993-4771 ext
3100.

According to IRS
guidelines all donations must
have a transaction date on or
before 12/31/2016 in order to be
eligible for a tax deduction.

If the donation is by check,
the check must be dated on or before
12/31/2016. If mailed, the envelope
must be postmarked on or before
12/31/2016. If dropped off at the office, it must be in
the possession of the Business Office on or before
Friday 12/30/2016 as the office is closed on
Saturday.

If you make a donation online through the
website or by sending an ACH transfer through your
bank, the funds must be in the Ladue Chapel Bank
Account on or before 12/31/2016.

If you complete your donation through a
stock transfer, the stock must be received, and
made available for sale, by the Ladue Chapel
Ameritrade account on or before Friday, 12/30/2016
due to the markets being closed on Saturday.
Please make sure to notify the business office
(Suzanne 314-993-4771 ext 3100 or Tom 314-993-
4771 ext 3104) of any pending stock transactions
so we can verify it and send you a confirmation
letter for your taxes.

**Since the Holidays are such a busy time,
and particularly because 12/31/2016 falls on a
Saturday this year, it is highly recommended to
complete all transactions prior to Christmas.**



Turkey & Ham Drive

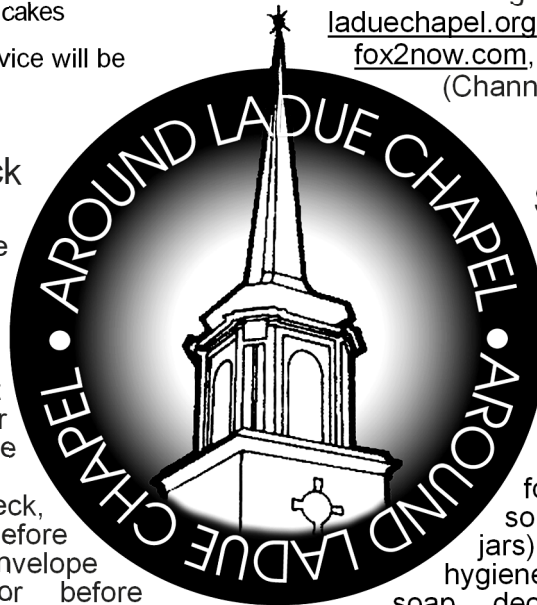
Help Ladue Chapel reach their 2016
goal of 350 turkeys and hams.
Please bring a turkey (10-12
pounds) or a small ham to the
church kitchen, place in the freezer
and sign the notebook provided. The
donated turkeys and hams will be
given to agencies supported by our

Mission Outreach. We hope you can help us
gather turkeys and hams so that others may enjoy
a good meal over the holidays.



Winter Weather Advisories

If we are forced to close the church building due
to inclement weather, there will be a message on
our answering machine at 314-993-4771, on
laduechapel.org, and will be listed as closed on
fox2now.com, kmov.com, and kds.com
(Channels 2, 4, and 5).



**Sacrament of the Lord's
Supper & Communion
Hunger Offering is
Sunday, January 1**

The Sacrament of the Lord's
Supper will be celebrated at
both worship services Sunday,
January 1. For the January
Hunger Offering, we are asking
for donations of canned chicken,
soups, peanut butter, jelly (plastic
jars), instant milk, coffee, tea and
hygiene items (tooth brushes/paste,
soap, deodorant, toilet paper, feminine
hygiene products). Please place your items in the
blue bins that will be located around the church
entrances and children's education area.



Scheduling a Room at the Church

For scheduling and security purposes, members
are asked to contact the church office in advance
to schedule all room/facility usage. Rooms may be
scheduled Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. -
8:30 p.m.; Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Saturday:
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., and Sunday: 7:00 a.m. -
2:00 p.m. (noon on Friday through Monday
morning is reserved for church sponsored
activities.) Exceptions to the above are weddings
and rehearsals, funerals, choir or ringer practice,
or special church sponsored events as arranged in
advance. Contact Jessica Lombardo at 314-993-
4771 ext 3102 to inquire about room availability.



Save the Date!
Chili Lunch Fundraiser
To Support Our Carillon Ringers!
Sunday, January 29 at 12:15 p.m.

All are invited to this fundraiser for our upcoming Bell Tour. The lunch will feature chili made by Ladue Chapel members, homemade macaroni and cheese, grilled hot dogs, and a variety of entertainment by members of our Carillon Ringers! Costs are \$10 per adult, \$5 per child (3-12 y.o.). Email Anne Peacock at apeacock@laduechapel.org if you would like to donate a pot of your chili for the lunch.

**Sundays, December 25
& January 1**
**Worship Services at 10:00 a.m.
in the Sanctuary**

Scriptures

Christmas Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12); John 1:1-14

New Year's Day: Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23

Music Ministry

Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir will sing "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" and "See, Amid the Winter's Snow."

New Year's Day at 10:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir will sing "In the Bleak Midwinter," and soloist Adam Stefo will sing "I Wonder as I Wander."



9450 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63124-1568

Making A Difference

RE M I N D E R !

Holiday Church Closings:

December 26 & 27

January 2

Music for Christmas Eve

- ☼ **4:30 p.m.**—Chorister Choir will sing "Ring the Bells of Christmas," Carol Choir will sing "On Christmas Night," combined children will sing "Oh, Come, All You Children," and GenRev Ringers will play "O Come, All Ye Faithful."
- ☼ **7:00 p.m.**—Carillon Ringers will play "Ukrainian Bell Carol Fantasy," "Forest Green" and "In the Bleak Midwinter." Youth Choir will sing "Sing We Now of Christmas."
- ☼ **9:40 p.m.**—Christmas Prelude Concert will include music for string quartet, organ, vocal quartet and vocal duet.
- ☼ **10:00 p.m.**—Chancel Choir will sing "Star Carol," "In the Bleak Midwinter," and "O Holy Night," with soloist Alicia Matkovich.

The Chapel Bell

Newsletter of

Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.laduechapel.org

314-993-4771

Rev. Dr. Mark P. Thomas, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Dieter U. Heinzl, Associate Pastor

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Submit articles to:

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Wednesday preceding publication date.

THE CHAPEL BELL (USPS: 779-870) is published weekly, September through May, except the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year; and twice monthly in June, July and August by Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church. Periodical postage paid at St. Louis, MO. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Chapel Bell*, 9450 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63124-1568.