~ GATHERING ~

PRELUDE “Shepherds at the Manger” (F. Liszt)

INTROIT “Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”
Middle Church Choir (J. Schop; harm. J.S. Bach)

CALL TO WORSHIP Jacqui Lewis

HYMN “Joy to the World”
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,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
The glory of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

~ REFLECTING ~

INVITATION TO PRAYER Shanta Thake

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING “Grateful” (T. Burgess)
Art & Soul Chorus – Angela Birchett, soloist

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES Marte Samuelstuen
Eddie Levy, Sarah Levy, Henry Gibson, Josephine Gibson

SONG “Arrival Medley” (Trad.; arr. J. Del Cueto)
Village Chorus for Children and Youth

FILM “A Bold New Love”

ANTHEM “Joyful, Joyful” (arr. M. Warren; adapt. R. Emerson)
JJ Gospel Choir – Samantha Waite, Ivan Anderson, soloists
Choreography by Kim Grier-Martinez, Mark Dendy, Adrienne Hurd
Jeremy Price, Hammond organ solo

SCriPTURE Isaiah 9.6–7 Bertram Johnson

SONG “Oh, Jerusalem in the Morning” (arr. J. H. Jennings)
Middle Church Choir – Robert Hughes, Tami Petty, soloists;
Beth Hatton, Ann Wazelle, Joslyn King, trio

SCriPTURE Luke 2.1–7 Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft
Derrick Harkins

SONG “A Child Is Born” (T. Jones, arr. S. Broadley)
Middle Church Choir

SCriPTURE Luke 2.8–14 Christina Fleming
Rob Stephens

ANTHEM “Angel Gabriel” “Glory” (Old Basque Carol)
(J. Stephens, L. Lynn, C. Smith)
JJ Gospel Choir – Alex Bertrand, soloist
Matthew Johnson Harris, rapper

SPOKEN WORD “Word Made Flesh” Genesis Be

ANTHEM “You’re My Joy” (T. Burgess)
Art & Soul Chorus – Kristina Nicole Miller, soloist

HOMILY “A Bold New Religion Called Love” Jacqui Lewis

~ RESPONDING ~

ANTHEM “O Holy Night” (A. Adam, arr. D. McClain-Freeney)
Caelyn Osborn, Tina Cernero, Riqi Velez, Madge Dietrich, Momoyo Arai,
Pemberton, Tina Owens, Ivan Anderson, ensemble

JOIN THE MOVEMENT Darren Johnston

OFFERING OFFERTORY “Shepherds at the Manger” (F. Liszt)

CEREMONY OF LIGHT Jacqui Lewis

HYMN “Silent Night, Holy Night”
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!
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.

SONG “Long as I Got King Jesus” (J. Cleveland)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Joyful, Joyful” reprise

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

ORGANIST • Allison Sniffin

MIDDLE CHURCH BAND • Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano;
Jonathan Peretz, drums; BAASSIK, bass; Jeremy Price, Hammond organ.

MIDDLE CHURCH CHOIR • Tami L. Petty, D.M.A., Director • Sarah Abigail Griffths, Beth Hatton, Melissa Casey José, Ann Wazelle,
Joslyn King, Nedra Neal, Linda Childs, Robert Hughes, Eric Lamp,
David Root, Mark Rehnstrom, Vaughn Lindquist, Wes ley Howell,
Charles Brown.

ART & SOUL CHORUS • Tituss Burgess, Director • Alex Bertrand,
Angela Birchett, Vanjih Boikai, Anne Fraser Dansky, Darrell Hunt,
Carole Jones, Andre Jordan, Farah Lopez, Kristina Nicole Miller,
Jeffrey Mills, Keith Mitchell, Andrew Shade, Daphne Shaw, Carla
Stewart, Helen White, Larry Whithfield.

VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH • John Del Cueto,
Director • Brooks Leslie, Caelyn Osborn, Cerentha Cook, Christian
Unthank, Dominick Vizioli, Ellington Tanner, Ethan Unthank,
Genevieve Jean Charles, Jon a Carter Smith, Josephine Jean Charles,
Lucien Tanner, Soraya Gibson, Talin Schell, Tomoki Harada.

JERRIESE JOHNSON GOSPEL CHOIR • John Del Cueto, Director •
Alex Bertrand, Alexandra Verley, Alison Winter, Andreas Vaagt,
Bianca Toscano Michalczak, Charles Dietrich, Cheryl Cochran,
Cornelia Zelter, Dean Hubbard, Deborah Berg McCarthy, Devon
Mosely, Don Arrington, Elaine Guardo, Fabienne Doucet, Gina
Pemberton, Gloria Moy, Geoffrey Perry, Ivan Anderson, Jana
Quiqley, Janet Laing, Jennifer Cook, Jenny Holman, Jessica Baen, Jim
Pender, Junko Harada, Kaede Zaitsu-Helck, Karen Brightly, Kashihi
Asai, Kristin Bebelaur, Laci Beckett, Lee Hill, Leonel Martinez, Linda
Doria, Lisa Dent, Lisa Fenger, Mady Marantz, Malaika Mumeka,
Miyuki Habiro, Momoyo Arai, Nathan Johnson, Peter Mucalhay,
Pennington Lane, Paul Chernosky, Ray Shah, Riqi Velez, Rochelle
Doctor, Samantha Waite, Sandra Anderson, Sandra Santana, Tina
Cernero, Tina Owens.

DANCERS • London Brison, Malakaa Cambridge, Jendaya Dash, 
Kaya M. Farrish, Soraya Gibson, Jamal Green, Spencer Grossman,
Adriennne Hurv, Maurice Ivy, Jamila Nicole Jordan, Nami Kagami, Zemi
Moreno-Billingsley, Lauren Son, Ellington Tanner, Lucien Tanner.
THIS WEEK AT MIDDLE CHURCH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3
• MOMENTUM MEALS — Social Hall — Lunch 11:30 AM–1:00 PM / Dinner 5:30–6:30 PM • Free, nutritious meal. — Get Help
• ACTING CLASS — 6:00–7:30 PM • 3rd Floor Studio — Work on scenes, monologues, dance, and. — Arts

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4
• WORLD AIDS DAY MEMORIAL GATHERING — 7:00–8:00 PM • Sanctuary — A time of reflection and remembrance to honor those impacted by HIV/AIDS. — Worship

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5
• JAM SESSION — 7:00–8:30 pm • Social Hall — Let’s play together and share your music. All levels welcome! — Arts

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6
• CREATIVE WRITING — 6:30–8:00 pm • 4th Floor Studio — A supportive place to work. THIS WEEK: Acquaintance. — Arts
• JERRIE JOHNSON GOSPEL CHOIR — 7:00–9:00 PM • Community Room — Contact jdelcueto@middlechurch.org.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9
• IN-THE-MIDDLE CHOIR REHEARSAL — 8:30–9:15 AM • Sanctuary — Contact tpetty@middlechurch.org. — Arts
• CELEBRATION! WORSHIP — 9:30–10:30 AM • Sanctuary — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Bertram Johnson, preacher • In-the-Middle Choir. — Worship
• KIDS IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES K–5) — 10:35–11:40 AM • 3rd Floor Studio — Explore the Bible with the arts — singing, acting, drawing—and brunch. — Children & Youth Education
• YOUTH IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES 6–12) — 10:35–11:40 AM • 3rd Floor Youth Room (306) — This Month: Capitalism & Christmas. — Youth Education
• CELEBRATION! WORSHIP — 11:45 AM–12:45 PM • Sanctuary — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Bertram Johnson, preacher • In-the-Middle Choir. — Worship
• FREEDOM SCHOOL: VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH — 1:00–2:15 PM • Community Room — For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org. — Arts
• REVOLUTIONARY LOVE SPEAKER SERIES: SACRED SHELTER — 1:30–2:30 PM • Sanctuary — Middle Deacon Dennis Barton and Dr. Susan Greenfield discuss Sacred Shelter: Thirteen Journeys of Homelessness and Healing. — Adult Education

PRAYER CORNER  Please pray with us this week for these people and concerns. Liddy, Lucy, Ford; Darryl Alladice; Pete Taina, Jose, Mariah Ramos, Ramos family and friends; Elaine, Robin, Mike, Tina, Abdulmalik, Sierra, Monty and his family, Mr. Pearson and his family, Umi, Achebe; Good orderly direction, Prosperity, Charity, Clarity and Grace; Phyllistine, Jorryn, Sierra Goodale, Sandy Stone, Monica, Bobby Givens, Anita Parker, Simon Clemente, Kade Schaffer, Darryl, Mardea, Middle Staff and Clergy, James Pierce and family, Donna Johnson, Chip, Liv, Mardea, Homeless and unemployed, underemployed, Tim; All sufferers of dementia; Peace, love and light all over the world and especially all these experiencing loss and tragedy at this time, Abundance and prosperity.

Middle Collegiate Church
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Christmas Eve with Middle Collegiate Church