

SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 • 10:30 AM • LABOR DAY

Welcome home to Middle Church! After worship begins, please wait to be seated.

++ Indicates you may find a seat—an Usher may assist you—or take a bio break.

* Indicates please stand if you are able.

~ GATHERING ~

PRELUDE++ "Ice Cream Truck" from *Reminiscences of New York* (Shuwen Zhang)

WELCOME / INVITATION TO WORSHIP++

Marte Samuelstuen

Please pray with me.

Prayer of the Farm Workers' Struggle

Show us the suffering of the most miserable;

(César E. Chávez)

So we will know my people's plight.

Free us to pray for others;

For you are present in every person.

Help us take responsibility for my own life;

So that we can be free at last.

Grant us courage to serve others;

For in service there is true life.

Give us honesty and patience;

So that the Spirit will be alive among us.

Let the Spirit flourish and grow;

So that we will never tire of the struggle.

Let us remember those who have died for justice;

For they have given us life.

Help us love even those who hate us;

So we can change the world. Amen.

HYMN*++ "O for a World"

~ REFLECTING ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS++

Chad Tanaka Pack

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
LORD'S PRAYER/CONGREGATIONAL AMEN***

Chad Tanaka Pack

Ever-loving and holy God, hallowed be your name. Your reign come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the reign, and the power, and the glory, forever. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE/WELCOMING GUESTS++

ANTHEM "Draw the Circle Wide"

(Mark Miller)

SCRIPTURE Luke 14.1, 7–14

Christina Fleming

SERMON "This Is What Love Looks Like"

Christina Fleming

~ RESPONDING ~

COMMUNION*

The People of God

All are welcome to come forward to share the gluten-free bread and white grape juice.

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

John Del Cueto

To become a member of Middle Church, see the clergy/staff at the pulpit after worship.

OFFERTORY/OFFERING "Wherever Is Your Heart" (T. Hanseroth, P. Hanseroth, B. Carlile)

Place gift in bag • Donate at middlechurch.org/donate • Text [Amount] to 917-924-4666

DOXOLOGY/DEDICATION PRAYER*

John Del Cueto

From all that dwell below the skies / Let faith and hope with love arise.

Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung / Through every land, by every tongue.

HYMN* "Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"

BENEDICTION*

Christina Fleming

POSTLUDE

Allison Sniffin

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION • Allison Sniffin, organ/piano

Summer Choir • Allison Mickelson, Director — Ann Wazelle, Madge Dietrich, Joslyn King, Eric Lamp, Wesley Rowell, Alvin Crawford, and volunteers from the congregation.

WELCOME TO MIDDLE CHURCH

We are glad you are here today. If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to return often and make Middle Church a home for you, your family, and friends. Complete the pew card to receive our newsletter or weekly emails. To join our movement, see staff after worship. Learn more at middlechurch.org. **Please silence your mobile phone and leave food or drink outside. Please do not walk across the front of the sanctuary while worship is in progress. For the safety of all, no animals are permitted in the building. Thank you for your cooperation.**

FOR BEST T-COIL ACCESS TO THE HEARING LOOP, sit by the side, front, and back aisles. By entering the Sanctuary, you grant Middle Collegiate Church unrestricted right to use and publish, transmit, or telecast photographs or likenesses that might be taken of you this day for use in communications related to the church. You agree that all such material will be the sole property of Middle Collegiate Church. If you are uncomfortable, you are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary balcony.

TODAY AT MIDDLE CHURCH

- **SUMMER CHOIR REHEARSAL** — 9:30–10:15 AM • *Sanctuary* — Attend rehearsal and sing in worship today. Contact amickelson@middlechurch.org. — *Arts*
- **BUTTERFLY MEAL PREPARATION** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Social Hall* — Help prepare sandwiches for distribution to the hungry in local parks. — *Give Help*
- **WEE CARE (INFANT–AGE 4)** — 10:00 AM–1:00 PM • *3rd Floor Nursery* — Childcare.
- **SUMMER CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 10:30–11:30 AM • *Sanctuary* — **LABOR DAY / THIS IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE** • **Christina Fleming, preacher** • Luke 14.1, 7–14 • Summer Choir • Communion. — *Worship*
- **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**— 11:35 AM –12:00 PM • *Sanctuary* — Learn about Middle membership.
- **COMMUNITY HOUR** — 11:35 AM –12:30 PM • *Social Hall* — Coffee and conversation. — *Community*
- **KIDS IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES K–5)** — 11:45 AM–12:45 PM • *3rd Floor Studio* — Explore the Bible with the arts—singing, acting, and drawing. — *Children and Youth Education*
- **SERMON TALKBACK** — 11:45–1:15 PM • *4th Floor Studio* — Join Middle Church staff to reflect, explore, and further discuss the week's sermon. — *Adult Education*
- **BUTTERFLY MEAL DISTRIBUTION** — 12:30–1:30 PM • *Meet at Social Hall* — Help to distribute bag lunches for the hungry in local parks. — *Give Help*
- **FREEDOM SCHOOL: VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** — *Summer break.* For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org. — *Arts*

VIDEOS AND PODCASTS — Worship music and sermon videos: youtube.com/MiddleNYC.

Re-watch the Worship Celebration livestream: facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch.

Middle Church Celebrations podcast: bit.ly/middlechurchcelebrations.

DEAR MIDDLE FAMILY— The consistory and I are SO very proud of the way you showed up last program year, raising money for our special Christmas Eve broadcast, our Puerto Rico missions, and our operating budget! Thank you so much!

Our new fiscal year began July 1. This year we must give \$875,000 in order to fund our ministries and programs. As you know, we are committed to funding 50% of our budget by 2022, and this year's goal is an important part of getting there!

Your participation and investment in this work, whether through an annual pledge or weekly or monthly recurring gifts, is critical to powering this movement, making sure we can meet our goal to reclaim and reframe Christianity toward LOVE. Period.

Donate NOW at middlechurch.org/donate.

—*In gratitude, Jacqui, Darren, and Middle Consistory*

PRAYER CORNER *Please pray with us this week for these people and concerns.*

Please pray with us this week for the people in the Middle community and beyond, including individuals and families struggling with poverty, loneliness, addictions, and hardships.

Prayer Requests submitted on August 19 – September 1 will appear in the September 8 bulletin.

MIDDLEPRAYS — Join our virtual prayer circle to offer prayerful support to our Middle community. For more information, contact middleprays@middlechurch.org

THIS WEEK AT MIDDLE CHURCH

Check middlechurch.org for full details of all events, including AA, NA, and Alanon.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 — CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY

• **MOMENTUM MEALS** — *on hiatus*

• **ACTING CLASS** — *Summer break.*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

• **TAKE TWO STORYTELLING WITH MIDDLE OUT LOUD & FRIENDS!** — 6:00 PM • *Meet at The Market (372 Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn NY)* — Join Elise for a light dinner and a fun evening of comedy at Take Two Storytelling at C'Mon Everybody! **Please RSVP to Elise at etiralli@middlechurch.org by Monday, September 2.** — *Community*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

• **QUEER BLACK MEN SMALL GROUP** — 7:00–9:00 PM • *Offsite* — *For location, contact qbm@middlechurch.org.*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

• **CREATIVE WRITING** — *Summer break*

• **JERRIESE JOHNSON GOSPEL CHOIR** — 7:00–9:00 PM • *Community Room* — Weekly rehearsal. For more information, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org. — *Arts*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

• **SHABBAT SERVICES** — 6:30–8:30 PM • *Social Hall* — TheShulofNewYork.org — *Worship*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

• **MIDDLE MIXER: MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER GAME** — 2:30–6:00 PM • *Yankee Stadium* — Enjoy a day with your Middle family at a professional soccer game between the New York City Football Club and New England Revolution. All ages welcome! Tickets \$20 a person in a covered seating area. After the game, some participants from Middle will go on the field to do penalty kicks. For more info, contact Marte at msamuelstuen@middlechurch.org. **MUST REGISTER by September 4 at 11:59 PM. Registration at bit.ly/MCC-MLS19**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- **SUMMER CHOIR REHEARSAL** — 9:30–10:15 AM • *Sanctuary* — Attend rehearsal and sing in worship today. Contact amickelson@middlechurch.org. — *Arts*
- **BUTTERFLY MEAL PREPARATION** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Social Hall* — Help prepare sandwiches for distribution to the hungry in local parks. — *Give Help*
- **WEE CARE (INFANT–AGE 4)** — 10:00 AM–1:00 PM • *3rd Floor Nursery* — Childcare.
- **SUMMER CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 10:30–11:30 AM • *Sanctuary* — **THIS IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE** • **Poetry Slam featuring Erica Hunt, Jocelyn Lieu, and Chad Tanaka Pack** • John 20.20–22 • Summer Choir. — *Worship*
- **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**— 11:35 AM –12:00 PM • *Sanctuary* — Learn about Middle membership.
- **COMMUNITY HOUR** — 11:35 AM –12:30 PM • *Social Hall* — Coffee and conversation. — *Community*
- **KIDS IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES K–5)** — 11:45 AM–12:45 PM • *3rd Floor Studio* — Explore the Bible with the arts—singing, acting, and drawing. — *Children and Youth Education*
- **SERMON TALKBACK** — 11:45–1:15 PM • *4th Floor Studio* — Join Middle Church staff to reflect, explore, and further discuss the week's sermon. — *Adult Education*
- **BUTTERFLY MEAL DISTRIBUTION** — 12:30–1:30 PM • *Meet at Social Hall* — Help to distribute bag lunches for the hungry in local parks. — *Give Help*
- **FREEDOM SCHOOL: VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** — *Summer break.* For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org. — *Arts*

O for a World

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

1 O for a world where ev - ery-one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
 4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

The New Century Hymnal Copyright © 1995 The Pilgrim Press

Tune: AZMON C.M.

Carl G. Gläser, 1828

Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmody, 1839

THIS WEEK: THIS IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE

- What does love look like to you?
- What are ways people and Spirit has been hospitable to you?
- This week what radical act of hospitality would you like to offer?

LAST WEEK: IN PLAIN SIGHT

- What are your take-aways from Derrick's sermon?

BUTTERFLY MEAL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

9:30-10:30 AM; 12:30 -1:30 PM • Social Hall

Join us as we prepare bag lunches for distribution to the hungry in local parks! More hands and feet are always needed. Distribution begins at 12:30 PM. **For more information about volunteering, contact Gloria at gmoy@middlechurch.org.** You make it happen, Middle family!

SHARE OUR MIDDLE WELCOME AS A HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEER

Do you enjoy the yummy food at Community Hour every Sunday? Did you know you can help serve the food? **Contact Elise at etiralli@middlechurch.org or 212-477-0666 ext 319 to receive more information on volunteering for this important Hospitality food ministry.**

THE SUMMER CHOIR NEEDS YOUR VOICE!

Sunday, September 8 • 9:30-10:15 AM • Sanctuary

Come as you are. Attend rehearsal and sing at the 10:30 AM worship celebration the same day. For more information, contact Allison at amickelson@middlechurch.org.

NEW — VOTER REFORM PROJECT TEAM

We're kicking off a voter reform project to carry us through 2020. Our work will focus on voter registration, Census 2020, and ending voter suppression. Our first meeting is Sunday, September 22 at 10:30 AM. **To join the team, contact votingproject@middlechurch.org.**

MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Middle Collegiate Church is a multicultural, multiethnic, intergenerational movement of Spirit and justice, powered by Revolutionary Love, with room for all. Following in the Way of Jesus' radical love, and inspired by the prophets, Middle Church is called by God to do a bold new thing on the earth. We aim to heal the soul and the world by dismantling racist, classist, sexist, xenophobic, and homophobic systems of oppression.

Because our God is still speaking in many languages, we work in inter-religious partnerships to uproot injustice, eradicate poverty, care for the brokenhearted, and build the Reign of God on earth. This activism is fueled by our faith; our faith is expressed in art; our art is an active prayer connecting us with the Holy Spirit. Middle Church affirms the transformative power of moral imagination, reclaiming and reframing Christianity inside our walls, on the street, and in virtual spaces around the globe.

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

William Williams, 1745
 St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.
 St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
 3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
 wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. NCH18 John Hughes, 1907 Alternate setting: ZION

MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. – Senior Minister in Charge
 Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – Exec. Minister for Justice, Operations, & Movement Building
 Rev. Chad Tanaka Pack – Interim Exec. Minister for Care & Membership
 Rev. Rob Stephens – Consulting Minister for Organizing
 Marte Samuelstuen, M.Sci. – Director of Children, Youth, & Young Adults
 Christina Fleming, M.Sci. – Director of Communications and Digital Strategy
 Cheryl Cochran – Director, Community Center

SANCTUARY 112 Second Avenue (at 7th St.)
 OFFICE 50 East 7th Street
 New York, NY 10003
 TELEPHONE 212-477-0666
 CARE LINE 212-477-0666 ext. 318
 E-MAIL middleinfo@middlechurch.org
 WEBSITE middlechurch.org

FOLLOW US!
 facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch
 facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis
 youtube.com/MiddleNYC
 vimeo.com/middlechurch
 twitter.com/middlechurch
 twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis

CONSISTORY

ELDERS
 Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D.
 Vickie Burns
 Darren Johnston CHAIR
 Darren Major
 Hadaryah Morgan
 Jeff Mummert
 Natalie Runyon
 James Wu

DEACONS
 Edna Benitez
 Lila Boyer
 Gerald Lazore
 Claudia Slacik
 Kelly Smith
 Phyllistine Travis

LOCAL DEACON
 Vincent Parham

Representatives to INTERSECTIONS
Elder – Danita Branam
Deacon – Robert Perry

welcoming
A BOLD
NEW artistic
THING
 inclusive

Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. – Senior Minister



Middle Collegiate Church

welcoming • artistic • inclusive • bold