

SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019 • 9:30 & 11:45 AM

IN CELEBRATION OF QUEER BLACK MEN

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++ “A Flower Is a Lovesome Thing” (Billy Strayhorn)
“Chelsea Bridge”

INTROIT “Come Sunday” (Duke Ellington)
Charles S. Brown, soloist • Dancers – Malcolm-x Betts, Jonathan Gonzalez,
Ishmael Houston-Jones, Johnnie Cruise Mercer, Thomas Tyger Moore

WELCOME / INVITATION TO WORSHIP++ Daryl Douglas, Terrance Pitts, Ivan
Anderson, Maurice Russell, Darren Major, Jonathan Lucas, Robert Hughes

BAPTISM (9:30) Alessandra Queen Rendeiro – Born February 21, 2019 Middle Clergy
Parents: Kathleen and Michael Rendeiro
Godparents: Marisa Poe and Chris DeSilvestri

HYMN*++ “Morning Has Broken”

~ REFLECTING ~

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Roger Turner
“Siyahamba” —We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS++ Chad Tanaka Pack

MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Alex Bertrand (9:30)
Matthew Johnson Harris (11:45)

LORD’S PRAYER/CONGREGATIONAL AMEN* Jacqui Lewis
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 “Know I’ve Been Changed” (Trad. Spiritual; arr. John Del Cueto)
Lee Hill, soloist

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 12.12–31 Keith Allen and Alvin Crawford

READING Excerpt from *Beloved* by Toni Morrison Ryan Brooke Taylor

SERMON “In This Here Place We Flesh” Wesley Steven Rowell

~ RESPONDING ~

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Antwayn Hopper
To become a member of Middle Church, see the clergy/staff at the pulpit after worship.

OFFERTORY/OFFERING “The Color Purple (Reprise)” (Brenda Russell, Allee Willis,
Ivan Anderson, soloist Stephen Bray)
Place gift in bag • Donate at middlechurch.org/donate • Text [Amount] to 917-924-4666

DOXOLOGY/DEDICATION PRAYER* Jacqui Lewis
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* “Great Is Your Faithfulness”

BENEDICTION* Wesley Steven Rowell and Jacqui Lewis

POSTLUDE “Joshua Fit De Battle Ob Jericho” (arr. Fela Sowande)

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION • Allison Sniffin, organ; Dionne McClain-Freeneey–
Music Director, piano; BAASSIK, bass; Bernice Brooks, drums.

Queer Black Men Ensemble • John Del Cueto–Music Director —Ivan Anderson, Alex Bertrand,
Charles Brown, Alvin Crawford, Daryl Douglas, Lee Hill, Robert Hughes, Matthew Johnson
Harris, Maurice Russell, Roger Turner, Wesley Rowell.

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

- WEE CARE (INFANT–AGE 4)** — 9:15 AM–1:15 PM • *3rd Fl Nursery* — Childcare.
- CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Sanctuary* — **HISPANIC HERITAGE** • “**In This Here Place We Flesh**” Wesley Rowell, preacher • Psalm 139 • Queer Black Men small group, worship leaders • Baptism.
- BUTTERFLY MEAL PREPARATION** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Social Hall* — Help prepare sandwiches for distribution to the hungry in local parks.
- JOIN THE MOVEMENT** — 10:30–10:45 AM • *Sanctuary* — Learn about Middle membership.
- COMMUNITY HOUR** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *Social Hall* — 9:30 worshippers and those arriving for 11:45 worship share coffee and conversation.
- KIDS IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES K–5)** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *3rd Fl Studio* — Explore the Bible with the arts—singing, acting, drawing—and brunch.
- BIBLE IN THE MIDDLE (ADULT)** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *4th Fl Studio* — Lively weekly conversations exploring scripture for deeper meaning in our lives.
- NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION—PART 1** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *Parlor* — Join Middle clergy for a two-part orientation between the worship celebrations. **New members will be welcomed at both worship celebrations on September 29.**
- STREET FAIR PLANNING MEETING** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *4th Fl Classroom* —To RSVP for this planning meeting, contact Marte at msamuelstuen@middlechurch.org.
- VOTER REFORM PROJECT** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *Conference Room* — Voter registration and ending voter suppression. To join the team, contact votingproject@middlechurch.org.
- CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 11:45 AM–12:45 PM • *Sanctuary* — **HISPANIC HERITAGE** • “**In This Here Place We Flesh**” Wesley Rowell, preacher • Psalm 139 • Queer Black Men small group, worship leaders.
- SAFETY TRAINING FOR MIDDLE LEADERS** — 12:45–2:00 PM • *Sanctuary*
- FAMILY ROOM (GRADES K–5)** — 12:45–2:00 PM • *3rd Fl Studio*
- FREEDOM SCHOOL: SING, PLAY, MOVE (AGES 3–5)** — 1:00–1:45 PM • Community Room — For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org. — Arts
- COMMUNITY HOUR** — 2:00–2:30 PM • *Social Hall* — Coffee and conversation.
- BUTTERFLY MEAL DISTRIBUTION** — 2:00–2:30 PM • *Meet at Social Hall* — Help to distribute bag lunches for the hungry in local parks.
- LAS MUJERES DE ABRIL** — 2:00–3:00 PM • *Sanctuary* — Middle member Lourdes Bernard presents a Hispanic heritage spotlight on women freedom fighters during the resistance of the U.S. invasion of the Dominican Republic. Learn more at lourdesbernard.com.

VIDEOS AND PODCASTS — Worship music and sermon videos: youtube.com/MiddleChurch.
Re-watch the Worship Celebration livestream: facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch.
Middle Church Celebrations podcast: middlechurch.org/podcasts.

DEAR MIDDLE FAMILY— 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.

As of this printing, we have donations and pledges for \$172,876.09 which is 19.78% of our offering goal. THAT’S AMAZING!

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.
John M, Joseph, LND, M.S, Aunt D and Uncle S, Zia A; The Multi-Verse.

THIS WEEK AT MIDDLE CHURCH

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- MOMENTUM MEALS** — *Social Hall* — Lunch 11:30 AM–1:00 PM / Dinner 5:30–6:30 PM • Free, nutritious meal and food pantry for clients and the community.
- ACTING CLASS** — 6:00–7:30 PM • *3rd Fl Studio* —Work on scenes, monologues, dance, and music to build your own show.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- REPARATIONS COLLECTIVE FALL CONVERSATION** — 7:00–8:30 PM • *Parlor* — Led by Jacqui Lewis and Adam Fitzgerald. Part 2 of 4. Participants must attend at least 3 of 4 sessions.
- STREET FAIR PLANNING MEETING** – 6:30-7:30 PM – *on ZOOM* – Learn about volunteer roles and responsibilities for the big day (Saturday, October 12). **Please RSVP to Elise at etiralli@middlechurch.org by Monday, September 23.**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- VIRTUAL NEW MEMBERS GATHERING** — 7:00–8:00 PM • *ZOOM* — Meet our digital minister, Natalie, and others who have joined recently to learn more about what it means to be a member. Contact Natalie at nperkins@middlechurch.org for ZOOM meeting registration.
- JUST ARTS CAFÉ: ART AS SANCTUARY : TWO ACTS IN SOLIDARITY WITH IMMIGRANTS** — 7:00–8:30 PM • *Social Hall* — In this workshop led by Middle member Lourdes Bernard participants will consider the immigrant journey. **To participate in this event, please contact Rev. Amanda at ahashcraft@middlechurch.org by September 22.**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- MOMS MIXER** — 6:00–8:00 PM • *Penny Farthing, 103 Third Avenue, Manhattan* — Come hang out with Moms of all kinds with children of all ages! A night of pay-your-own food and drinks. No childcare available. Please RSVP to Amanda at ahashcraft@middlechurch.org.
- CREATIVE WRITING** — 6:30–8:00 PM • *4th Fl Studio* — A supportive place to work on an idea you’ve always wanted to write. **THIS WEEK: Romantic.**
- JERRIESE JOHNSON GOSPEL CHOIR** — 7:00–9:00 PM • *Community Room* — Weekly rehearsal. For more information, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org.
- YOUTH IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES 6–12)** – 6:00–8:00 pm. • *3rd Fl Studio* — Ice breakers, food, and engaging conversations around immigration and Census 2020. **Please RSVP to Elise at youth@middlechurch.org by Wednesday, September 25.**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 & SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 — NO PROGRAMMING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- WEE CARE (INFANT–AGE 4)** — 9:15 AM–1:15 PM • *3rd Fl Nursery* — Childcare.
- CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Sanctuary* — **HISPANIC HERITAGE** • “**El trabajo de Dios (God’s Job) y de nosotros**” Jacqui Lewis, preacher • Psalm 146.1–10 • Team from Service-Learning Trip to Puerto Rico, worship leaders • Welcoming New Members.
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- COMMUNITY HOUR** — 1:00–1:30 PM • *Social Hall* — Coffee and conversation.
- FREEDOM SCHOOL: VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** — 1:00–2:15 PM • Community Room — For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org. — Arts
- PUERTO RICO TALK-BACK (ALL AGES)** — 1:30–3:00 PM • *Sanctuary* — Learn about Middle’s commitment to Puerto Rico service-learning trips from our youth team participants.

Morning Has Broken

Unison

1. Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en,
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
 born of the one light E - den saw play!

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.
 God's re - cre - a - tion of - the new day!

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BUNESSAN
 55.54 D

THIS WEEK: IN THIS HERE PLACE WE FLESH

Write notes here about today's reflection on your flesh and God's Love.

MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH IS ON LENAPE LAND ON TURTLE ISLAND.

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.

Great Is Your Faithfulness

(T. O. Chisholm; W. M. Runyon)

Great is your faithfulness, O God Creator,
 with you no shadow of turning we see.
 You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
 all of your goodness forever will be.

REFRAIN

Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 All I have needed your hand has provided,
 Great is your faithfulness, God unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
 sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
 Join with all nature in manifold witness,
 to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

REFRAIN

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
 your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
 Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

REFRAIN

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LAST WEEK: COME HOME TO LOVE

- This whole section of Luke is about loss: woman loses coin, shepherd loses sheep, father loses son. We've all lost something; as Ruby says, "Where does it hurt?"
- Something pushes the younger son to leave "home," and then he "comes to himself" and returns to love. Is his story in any way like yours?
- The father's joy that what was lost is now found points to God's joy when we turn back toward God. Take a moment and tell God about any way you need to turn around, and ask for help to do so.
- How do we make Middle Church more like "home" for you? For others?

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*
 Natalie Perkins – *Digital Minister*

SANCTUARY	112 Second Avenue (at 7th St.)	Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch
OFFICE	50 East 7th Street New York, NY 10003	Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis
TELEPHONE	212-477-0666	YouTube.com/MiddleChurch
CARE LINE	212-477-0666 ext. 318	Instagram.com/middlechurch
E-MAIL	middleinfo@middlechurch.org	Instagram.com/revjacquilewis
WEBSITE	middlechurch.org	Twitter.com/middlechurch
		Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis

CONSISTORY

ELDERS	DEACONS	LOCAL DEACON
Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D.	Edna Benitez	Vincent Parham
Vickie Burns	Lila Boyer	
Darren Johnston CHAIR	Gerald Lazore	
Hadaryah Morgan	Claudia Slacik	Representatives to INTERSECTIONS
Jeff Mummert	Kelly Smith	ELDER – Danita Branam
	Phyllistine Travis	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