

SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 20, 2019 • 9:30 & 11:45 AM • CHILDREN’S SABBATH

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++ Middle Church Band

INTROIT “A Million Dreams” (Benj Pasek, Justin Paul)

WELCOME / INVITATION TO WORSHIP++ Chad Tanaka Pack

HYMN*++ “Hold Everybody Up”

~ REFLECTING ~

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft
“Siyahamba”—We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS++ Jacqui Lewis

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
LORD’S PRAYER/CONGREGATIONAL AMEN*** Jacqui Lewis

“I’m Gonna Make It”

(Geron Davis)

Nita Whitaker, Sky LaFontaine, and Liisi La Fontaine, singers

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 “Children Will Listen” (Stephen Sondheim)
Madge Dietrich, soloist

SCRIPTURE Zechariah 8.1–8 Sarah Levy and Eddie Levy (9:30 AM)
Zemi Moreno-Billingsley (11:45 AM)

SERMON “Being the Beloved Community” Marte Samuelstuen

~ RESPONDING ~

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

OFFERTORY/OFFERING “Rise Up” (Cassandra Monique Batie; Jennifer Decilveo)
Caelyn Osbern, soloist

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

DOXOLOGY/DEDICATION PRAYER* Chad Tanaka Pack
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* “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BENEDICTION* Jacqui Lewis

POSTLUDE Middle Church Band

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION •

Village Chorus for Children and Youth • John Del Cueto—Music Director — Cerentha Cook, Josephine Gibson, Brooks Leslie, Caelyn Osbern, Lake Salvatore, Ellington Tanner, Lucien Tanner, Dominick Vizioli.

Middle Church Band • Dionne McClain-Freeney—Music Director, piano; Jonathan Peretz, drums.

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* — **CHILDREN’S SABBATH • “Being the Beloved Community” Marte Samuelstuen, preacher** • Zechariah 8.1–8 • Village Chorus for Children and Youth.

• **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.

• **YOUNG ADULTS SMALL GROUP** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *Social Hall* — Join the celebration of Marte Samuelstuen in the social hall.

• **BIBLE IN THE MIDDLE (ADULT)** — 10:45–11:30 AM • *4th Fl Studio* — Lively weekly conversations exploring scripture for deeper meaning in our lives.

• **CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 11:45 AM–12:45 PM • *Sanctuary* — **CHILDREN’S SABBATH • “Being the Beloved Community” Marte Samuelstuen, preacher** • Zechariah 8.1–8 • Village Chorus for Children and Youth.

• **JOIN THE MOVEMENT** — 12:45–1:15 PM • *Sanctuary* — Learn about Middle membership.

• **BUTTERFLY MEAL DISTRIBUTION** — 12:45–2:00 PM • *Meet at Social Hall* — Help to distribute bag lunches for the hungry in local parks.

• **COMMUNITY HOUR** — 12:45–1:30 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.

• **MIDDLE OUT LOUD** — 1:30–2:15 PM • *Parlor* — Conversation, social activities, and community building that centers the experiences of LGBTQIA+ person.

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— 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 raised \$236,248.07 in gifts and pledges.

This puts us at 54% of our December 31st goal of \$437,500.

Our total goal for the year is \$875,000 by June 30, 2020.

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. Thank you for your generosity.

—*In gratitude, Jacqui, Darren, and Middle Consistory* **Donate at middlechurch.org/donate.**

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

Daniel Peretz; Victor M., Ms. James, Joe Miller, Auri LLP; Leondro Mizo, Charles Hart, Hans Robertson, Persons facing Drug Addiction, Persons in bereavement of love; Pete, Taina, Jose, Mariah Ramos, Ramos Family and friends; Cousin Tony and family, bless my friends, family and my children; Our new ministry Heart & Soul; The Trump Investigation that the spiritual gift of Discernment comes down from Heaven to Lead us ... in this country ... with Truth and Love

THIS WEEK AT MIDDLE CHURCH

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

• **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, OCTOBER 22 — NO PROGRAMMING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 — NO PROGRAMMING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

• **YOUTH IN THE MIDDLE (GRADES 7–12)** — 6:00–8:00 PM • *3rd Fl Studio* — Middle and high school students are invited to engage in honest conversations and team-building activities to connect faith and justice every 2nd Sunday and 4th Thursday. Contact Elise at etiralli@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: Roundabout.**

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 — NO PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 — NO PROGRAMMING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

• **WEE CARE (INFANT–AGE 4)** — 9:15 AM–1:15 PM • *3rd Fl Nursery* — Childcare.

• **CELEBRATION! WORSHIP** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Sanctuary* — **REFORMATION SUNDAY / 400 YEARS OF INEQUALITY • “Fight. Finish. Faith.” Jacqui Lewis, preacher** • 2 Timothy 4.6–8; 16–18 • Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir.

• **BUTTERFLY MEAL PREPARATION** — 9:30–10:30 AM • *Social Hall* — Help prepare sandwiches for distribution to the hungry in local parks.

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• **FREEDOM SCHOOL: VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** — *on hiatus*

• **EXPLORING CALL** — 1:00–2:15 PM • *Parlor* — What is “call?” How do we discern call? What is the call of God on each of our lives, and how do we hear and accept God’s call in an ever-changing world? This small group is for those currently in seminary, considering seminary, out of seminary, or otherwise considering vocational ministry. For more info, contact Chad at ctanakapack@middlechurch.org

• **SING, PLAY, MOVE: AN INTEGRATED MUSICAL EXPERIENCE (AGES 3–5)** — 1:15–2:00 PM • *Community Room* — Kids ages 3, 4, and 5 who love singing and having fun with music are invited to join this interactive musical experience every 4th Sunday of the month. Parents/guardians please accompany young ones. For more info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org.

• **CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF ANITA PARKER** — 2:00–3:30 PM • *Sanctuary*

Hold Everybody Up

(Melanie DeMore/John Del Cueto)

CHORUS

We're gonna hold everybody, we're gonna hold everybody up.
We're gonna hold everybody, we're gonna hold everybody up.
We're gonna hold everybody, we're gonna hold everybody up.
We're gonna hold everybody, we're gonna hold everybody up.
Hold everybody up, up, up
Hold everybody up, up, up
Hold everybody up, up, up
Hold everybody up.

Just because you look like you,
and I look like me
Doesn't mean we can't be friends,
you're not my enemy.

CHORUS

People all around the world,
Sometimes feel so sad
But when others show they care
They don't feel so bad.

CHORUS

THIS WEEK: BEING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

- How do we hold all ages in our love and justice work?
- How do we celebrate the gifts, passions, and leadership of our young people?
- How do we work together to build and be the beloved community that Dr. King wrote about?

LAST WEEK: SOMOS MAS: A CALL FOR LIBERATION

- How did today's sermon and music inspire you for the week ahead? How can you be a part of God's vision?

HEART & SOUL

Wednesday, November 6 (1st Wednesdays) • 7:00-8:00 PM

We understand the benefits of rooting ourselves in spiritual practices like prayer, song, protest – and even movement. Heart & Soul gathers on the first Wednesday of each month for an hour of physical activity, featuring a different style each month from Zumba to Yoga to Hip-Hop. No need to RSVP, just come, move with us, and invite friends! For more info, contact Amanda at ahashcraft@middlechurch.org

QUEER BLACK MEN

Wednesday, November 6 (1st and 3rd Wednesdays) • 7:00-9:00 PM

What is it like to be a queer black man of faith today? How do we reconcile the God of our fathers with the God of our understanding? Through spiritual lenses, the group will examine issues that affect queer black male lives, and all our lives, and respond to these issues. Led by Wesley Rowell. For more info, contact qbm@middlechurch.org

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.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

(Jill Jackson Miller and Sy Miller)

Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator
Family all are we,
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me;
let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take,
let this be my solemn vow;

To take each moment,
and live each moment
in peace eternally!

Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me.

Words and Music: Sy Miller, Jill Jackson, © 1955, 1983, Jan-Lee Music.
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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*

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CONSISTORY

ELDERS	DEACONS	LOCAL DEACON
Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D.	Edna Benitez	Vincent Parham
Vickie Burns	Lila Boyer	
Darren Johnston	Gerald Lazore	
CHAIR	Claudia Slacik	Representatives to INTERSECTIONS
Hadaryah Morgan	Kelly Smith	ELDER – Danita Branam
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**A BOLD
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Middle Collegiate Church

welcoming • artistic • inclusive • bold