Come again next week, and bring a friend.

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Art & Soul at Middle Church is — Pablo Picasso once said, Worship at night, outside and in between the lines. Fantastic music that makes you get off your feet or weep.

What is soul

*S Indicates please stand if you are able .

Nathan Johnson, soloist

• John Del Cueto–Music Director

HYMN*

DOXOLOGY/DEDICATION PRAYER*

OFFERTORY/OFFERING

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

HYMN++

* Text [Amount] to 917-4666

POSTLUDE

PASTORING IN THE CELEBRATION

Jesse Johnson Johnson, soloist • John Del Cueto–Music Director

Middle Church Band • Dionne McClain-Freeman–Music Director; pianist, Jonathan Peretz, drums; Jeremy Price, Hammond organ; David White, bass guitar.

This Week at Middle Church

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

• 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 CLAS • 6:00–7:30 PM • 3rd Fl Studio — Preparation for “A Heavenly Holiday Weekend,” the December 15 performance at 2:00 PM — production, movement, exercises, cold readings.

• PUL THEOLOGY — 7:00–8:30 PM • Studies of Green Peace: 525 East 15th Street — Share stories, ask questions, and talk honestly about God, life, and everything in between.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

• ADVENT BIBLE STUDY: PRESENT TO THE PRESENCE — 7:00–8:30 PM • ZOOM online at bit.Shrilovicb — Middle clergy for a mid-week online Bible study on December 10 and 17. For more info or to RSVP, contact Chad at chad@middlechurch.org.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 — NO PROGRAMMING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

• CREATIVE WRITING — 6:30–8:00 PM • 4th Fl Studio — A supportive place to work on an idea you’ve always wanted to write. For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org.

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 — NO PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 — NO PROGRAMMING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

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

• CELEBRATION! WORSHIP — 9:30–10:30 AM • Sanctuary — THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GOD’S IN THE MIDDLE OF IT • Guest Preachers • Isaiah 11.1–10 • Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Lighting the Advent Candles • Baptism.

• BUTTERFLY MEAL PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION — on hiatus until spring.

• JOIN THE MOVEMENT — 10:30–10:45 AM • 4th Fl Classroom

• 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–3) — 10:45–11:30 AM • 3rd Fl Studio — Explore the Bible with the arts—singing, acting, drawing — and brunch.

• ADVENT BIBLE IN THE MIDDLE (ADULT) — 10:45–11:30 AM • 4th Fl Studio — Weekly lively conversations reflecting on the sermons during Advent. Led by Catherine Torpey.

• REVOLUTIONARY PARENTING — 10:45–11:30 AM • Room 207 — Conversations and community at the intersection of parenting, faith, and the belief that we can raise a child that is free, just, and liberated, and ethical generation.

• FREEDOM SCHOOL: VILLAGE CHORUS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH — 10:45–11:30 AM • Parlor — For info, contact John at jdelcueto@middlechurch.org.

• DEACON’S MEETING — 10:45–11:30 AM • Cellar Conference Room

• VOTER REFORM PROJECT — 10:45–11:30 AM • 4th Fl Classroom

• CELEBRATION! WORSHIP — 11:45 AM–12:45 PM • Sanctuary — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GOD’S IN THE MIDDLE OF IT • Guest Preachers • Isaiah 11.1–10 • Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Lighting the Advent Candles • Baptism.

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

DEAR MIDDLE FAMILY — This year we must give $875,000 by June 30, 2020 in order to fund this year’s goal is an important part of getting there. This puts us at 72.5% of our December 31st goal of $437,500.

By entering the Sanctuary, you grant Middle Collegiate Church unrestricted right to use and you are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary balcony.

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DEAR MIDDLE FAMILY — This year we must give $875,000 by June 30, 2020 in order to fund our ministries and programs. As you are known, 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 $317,214.84 in gifts and pledges. This puts us at 72.5% of our December 31st goal of $437,500.

During our annual Gift to Bring campaign, we are asking for pledges, recurring gifts, or one-time donations of $2, $20, $200, $2,000, and $20,200. With your help we can make our goal and power Revolutionary Love. Consider using a gift card or debit card at middlechurch.org or use the pledge form included in this bulletin.

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

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HOLIDAY CARE PACKAGES

Advent is a time of waiting and expectation. And as we wait, we join God in bringing about God’s reign on Earth. This Advent, Middle Church gets in the middle of it with God as we collect items for hygiene kits for LGBTQQA+ youth experiencing homelessness, and for children living in detention shelters in Tijuana.

FOR LGBTQQA+ YOUTH: Pouches of chicken, Pouches of dried fruit and nuts, Chocolate bars — high quality, for more nutrients; NEW socks (MULTI/UNISEX); Small new journal or notebook and a sharpie; Travel-size body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, lip balm; Sanitary supplies (tampons, pads, liners).

FOR CHILDREN: Crayons; Colored pencils; Coloring books; Small craft items (stickers, glue sticks, and so forth)

Please plan to bring your donation on Sunday, December 8 for a special collection and dedication during worship led by our children.

Donations will be accepted Sunday, November 24–Thursday, December 12.

For information, contact Rev. Amanda at ahashcraft@middlechurch.org

Middle Church is honored to partner with Parity, a faith-based organization that creates and nurtures the reconciliation of faith and gender identity for the collection of hygiene kits, and Families Belong Together, a coalition dedicated to fight family separation for the collection and delivery of crafts to children in Tijuana.

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 injustices, eradicate poverty, care for the brokenhearted, and build the Reign of God around the globe.

MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. – Senior Minister
Rev. Chad Tanaka Pack – Interim Exec. Minister for Care & Membership
Natalie Perkins – Digital Minister

SANCTUARY 112 Second Avenue (at 7th St.)
OFFICE 50 East 7th Street
TELEPHONE 212-477-0666
CELL PHONE 212-477-0666 ext. 318
E-MAIL middleinfo@middlechurch.org
WEBSITE middlechurch.org

CONSISTORY

ELDERS
Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. Vickie Burns Darren Johnston Char Hadiyah Morgan Jeff Munnert Pete Greenfell

DEACONS
Edna Benitez Lila Boyer Geraldine Lawrence Claudia Slack Kelly Smith Phyllistine Travis

LOCAL DEACON
Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis

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