~ GATHERING ~

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Woke Up This Mornin’”

(Written by African American Traditional)

Woke up this mornin’ with my mind
Stayed on freedom.
Woke up this mornin’ with my mind
Stayed on freedom.
Woke up this mornin’ with my mind
Stayed on freedom.
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Ain’t no harm to keep your mind …
Walkin’ and talkin’ with your mind …

~ REFLECTING ~

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES ++

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

“We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS ++

Jacqui Lewis

CALL TO PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/
LORD’S PRAYER/CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

John Del Cueto

“God Is”

(James Cleveland)

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
ANTHEM  “Be Grateful”  (Walter Hawkins)  
Gina Pemberton, soloist

SCRIPTURE  “The 23rd Psalm”  (Bobby McFerrin)

SERMON  “In the Valley of the Shadow”  Jacqui Lewis

~ RESPONDING ~

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT  Kaliswa Brewster

OFFERTORY/OFFERING  “Today”  (Kirk Franklin)  
Alex Bertrand, Samantha Waite, soloists
Donate at middlechurch.org/donate • Text [Amount] to 917-924-4666

DOXOLOGY/DEDICATION PRAYER*  Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft
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*  “Lord, Help Me to Hold Out”

Lord, help me to hold out,
Lord, help me to hold out,
Lord, help me to hold out,
until my change comes.

BENEDICTION*  Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION •

For complete credits, visit YouTube.com/MiddleChurch.

PRAYER CORNER  Please pray with us this week for these people and concerns.
We are praying for you every day.
To make a prayer request, visit middlechurch.org/prayer-pastoral-care
Welcome to Middle Church

We are glad you are worshipping with us 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. Sign up for updates or weekly emails at middlechurch.org.

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 by June 30, 2020 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 $516,631.12 in gifts and pledges. That puts us at 59.04% of our June 30th goal of $875,000!

To reach our FY2020 goal by June 30, 2020, can we count on you to give $20, $200, $2,020 or $20,200 today? Or set up a recurring $2 weekly or monthly contribution! You can donate in worship, in a dip jar, online at middlechurch.org/donate, or through text message.

—in gratitude, Jacqui, Darren, and Middle Consistory

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate.

This Week: In the Valley of the Shadow

• How does God’s love look in the time of corona?

Last Week: Wanna Know Where God Is?

• Have you ever been “thirsty,” “needed a drink,” and God showed up? When? Remember every detail.

• How is this moment—sickness, hatred-gone-viral, and so much we can’t breathe—an opportunity for God to show up? Where? How?

Until Further Notice

All worship will be online, and all in-person programming is canceled.
MIDDLE VIRTUAL GATHERINGS

Although we have canceled all in-person worship and programming due to the coronavirus outbreak, we are committed to providing ongoing opportunities to gather online. We may be socially distanced, but spiritually we remain connected; trusting that the God who created and cares for us will guide our community through this crisis in love!

We hope you'll join us for the events listed below! And stay tuned, we add to this list as new programs become available. All events are listed in EST.

Thursday, March 19, 1:00 p.m.: New Adventures
Thursday, March 19, 2:00 p.m.: This Moment Action
Thursday, March 19, 5:30 p.m.: Kids' Dance Party!
Thursday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.: Writing Group
Friday, March 20, 9:00 p.m.: Revolutionary Parenting in the Age of COVID-19
Sunday, March 22, 10:45 a.m.: Bible in the Middle
Sunday, March 22, 10:45 a.m.: New Members Class
Sunday, March 22, 10:45 a.m.: Kids' Sunday Enrichment
Sunday, March 22, 11:45 a.m.: Worship Celebration
Sunday, March 22, 1:00 p.m.: Young Adults Small Group
Sunday, March 22, 1:00 p.m.: Exploring Call
Tuesday, March 24, 10:00 a.m.: Kids' Pajama Storytime
Tuesday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.: Leading From Within: Lenten Bible Study
Wednesday, March 25, 7:00 p.m.: How to Be an Antiracist Book Discussion
Thursday, March 26, 2:00 p.m.: This Moment Action
Thursday, March 26, 5:30 p.m.: Kids' Dance Party!
Thursday, March 26, 6:30 p.m.: Writing Group

Visit middlechurch.org for full details and the latest updates.
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.

MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. – Senior Minister in Charge
Rev. Benjamin Perry – Minister for Outreach and Media Strategy
Rev. Chad Tanaka Pack – Consulting Minister
Natalie Perkins – Digital Minister

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