

SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

JULY 19, 2020 • 11:45 AM • THIS IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE

~ GATHERING ~

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marlene Fox

HYMN

“What Shall I Render?”

(Margaret Douroux)

What shall I render unto God for all these blessings?
What shall I render, what shall I give?

What shall I render unto God for all these blessings?
What shall I render, what shall I give?

All I can render is my body and soul
All I can render, that’s all I can give.

God has everything, and everything belongs to God
God has everything, and everything belongs to God.

~ REFLECTING ~

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Sarah Kane

“Siyahamba”

(South African Traditional Song)

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

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.**

CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft



ANTHEM	“Beautiful City” Branch Woodman, soloist	(Stephen Schwartz)
SCRIPTURE	The Acts of Paul and Thecla 25:1–6, 34:1–6	Natalie Perkins
SERMON	“What If We All Knew Thecla?”	Natalie Perkins

~ **RESPONDING** ~

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Jacqui Lewis

OFFERTORY “I Done Done” (Trad Spiritual, arr. John Del Cueto)
Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate Venmo @**MiddleCollegiateChurch**
or Text [Amount] to 917-924-4666

HYMN “Guide My Feet” (Trad. Spiritual; arr. Dionne McClain-Freeneey, John Del Cueto)
Jessica Baen, Wesley Rowell, Tina Owens, Matthew Ackerman, leaders

Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race, Lord
Guide my feet while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand while I run this race ...

Stand by me while I run this race ...

I'm your child while I run this race ...

Search my heart while I run this race ...

Guide my feet while I run this race ...

DEDICATION PRAYER AND BENEDICTION Jacqui Lewis

POSTLUDE “Take Care of This House”
from *1600 Pennsylvania Ave* (Leonard Bernstein, Alan Jay Lerner)
Tami Petty and Branch Woodman, duet

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION • For all credits, visit YouTube.com/MiddleChurch.

THIS WEEK: WHAT IF WE ALL KNEW THECLA?

- Identify ways in which you've felt your worth called into question.
- How can Thecla's story help combat this question?
- Name three things you can do to help remind yourself of your God-given worth.

LAST WEEK: SOMETHING STINKS

- How did today's sermon speak to what love looks like in these times?
- How does it inspire your life of faith and activism?
- What is one take away or learning you might share with others?

PRAYER CORNER *Please pray with us this week for these people and concerns.*
Melvin Cunningham's cousin Gloria. We are praying for all our Middle family 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](https://www.youtube.com/MiddleChurch).
Re-watch the Worship Celebration livestream: [facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://www.facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch).
Middle Church Celebrations podcast: middlechurch.org/podcasts.

DEAR MIDDLE FAMILY— We are so grateful to each and every one of you for sticking with us through these uncertain times! While we tally up our totals for this fiscal year, we are continuing to move toward our vision for 2021 and are truly grateful to each of you for your continued love and support. Please stayed tuned for more information about our goal for 2020 and 2021 at the upcoming **congregational meeting on Sunday, July 26, 2020 at 1:00 PM.**

Can we count on you to give \$20, \$200, or \$2,020 today? No gift is too small! A recurring \$2 weekly or monthly contribution of \$20, \$200, or \$2020 is a huge help! **You can make a donation online at middlechurch.org/donate or through Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch or by texting [Amount] to 917-924-4666.**

With deep appreciation, thank you for your generosity. We know that COVID-19 has inflicted incredible strain and uncertainty on many families. In this stressful time, please do not hesitate to reach out if you need help at our **prayer and pastoral care portal**.

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

MIDDLE VIRTUAL GATHERINGS

All events are listed in ET. Visit middlechurch.org for details and the latest updates.

Registration for all programming ends 1 hour before the event begins, so be sure to RSVP!

EVERY DAY: Prayer Phone: Call 212-477-0666 and press 4 for English or press 5 for Spanish to hear a weekly prayer, scripture, and reflection from a Middle pastor. Updated Mondays, 8:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 19

- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:45 a.m.: [Kids' Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Chat and Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Virtual Play Date: Storytime](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

MONDAY, JULY 20

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

- 7:00 p.m.: [Ukuleliacs](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Answering the Call: An Anti-Racism Workshop with Jacqui Lewis—Night 1](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Queer Black Men of Middle](#)

THURSDAY, JULY 23

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
- 6:30 p.m.: [Writing Group](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir Rehearsal](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Answering the Call: An Anti-Racism Workshop with Jacqui Lewis—Night 2](#)

SATURDAY, JULY 25

- 2:00 p.m.: [¡Hablamos!](#)

SUNDAY, JULY 26

- 10:00 a.m.: [Revolutionary Parenting](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:45 a.m.: [Kids' Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Virtual Congregational Meeting](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Young Adult Talk Back](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

BLACK LIVES MATTER • DEFUND POLICE • REFUND SCHOOLS • END POVERTY • HONOR THE EARTH • PROTECT VOTING RIGHTS • WORSHIP YOUR GOD

ABOLISH ICE • TEAR DOWN WALLS

HEALTH CARE IS A HUMAN RIGHT

ANSWERING THE CALL

An anti-racism workshop
with Rev. Jacqui Lewis, Ph.D.

July 22 - July 23
7:00 - 8:30 PM ET, Both Evenings
Click Here to Learn More

THIS IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE



MIDDLE CHURCH ZOOM COVENANT

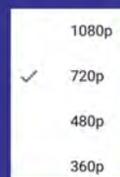
- Please take time before the meeting to download the Zoom app and/or familiarize yourself with zoom.us — it's easy and free to do so. If you need help troubleshooting, visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/sections/200305593-Troubleshooting>.
- Please visit this page at least 5 minutes before your meeting to ensure you are using the correct link for your intended meeting.
- Upon entering, confirm that you are in the right meeting.
- Please change your display name. Enter your Full Name, pronouns, and your city. i.e. "Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft (she/her, NYC)"
- Upon entering the meeting, please hit video, as we'd love to see you.
- Also, hit mute to avoid any audio issues. Unmute yourself when you'd like to weigh in on the conversation.
- Sometimes, the host of the meeting will mute and unmute everyone as the meeting requires.
- If you have a question related to the conversation but would prefer to just type it in, there is a "Chat" section on the Zoom video where you can type in a question. We'll be checking that chat box often to ensure we address all member comments before the meeting ends.
- Zoom participants will adhere to demonstrating Revolutionary Love at all times. If a participant's behavior is deemed inappropriate by the meeting host, they will be removed. Inappropriate behavior includes but is not limited to: harassment, threats, bigotry of any kind, and not identifying themselves.
- For additional troubleshooting, see the sidebar.
- We are thrilled you are here and look forward to a wonderful time together.

TROUBLESHOOTING FAQ

Having trouble with the livestream or Zoom call? Try one (or all) of these tricks to see if it fixes the problem.



REFRESH THE PAGE



CHANGE THE VIDEO QUALITY IN THE VIDEO SETTINGS



PAUSE THE STREAM AND WATCH ON A DELAY

And, make sure you've powered down your device recently!
As Anne Lamott says, "Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you."

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS FROM OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- [AA Meetings](#) can be found [here](#).
- **Downtown Meditation** offers online [Wednesday Dharma Talk and Sitting at 7:00 pm](#)



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. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – *Exec. Minister for Congregational Life, Care, & Movement Building*

Rev. Marlene Fox – *Exec. Minister for Operations, Stewardship, & Finance*

Rev. Benjamin Perry – *Minister for Outreach and Media Strategy*

Natalie Perkins – *Director of Digital Ministry*

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CONSISTORY

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