

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 • 11:45 AM • HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Ashley Gonzalez and Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Si el espíritu de Dios”

(Anonymous; arr. Ricardo Rodriguez)

¡El Espíritu de Dios se mueve, se mueve, se mueve
El Espíritu de Dios se mueve dentro de tu corazón!
¡Oh hermano, deja que se mueva, se mueva, se mueva
Oh hermano, deja que se mueva dentro de tu corazón!

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Marcharemos”

Gospel Ensemble

Bianca Toscano Michalczak

(Based on a South African Traditional Song)

Marcharemos en la luz de Dios,
marcharemos en la luz de Dios.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

Ashley Gonzalez

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

John Del Cueto

PASSING OF THE PEACE “Oye cómo va” (Tito Puente)

ANTHEM “Glorious” (Martha Munizzi)
Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

SCRIPTURE Matthew 20.1–16 Jorge Fontanez

SERMON “Tired, Poor, and Huddled” Carlos Piñero

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Edna Benitez

OFFERTORY “Under One Tent”
from the musical *Pinky* (Chad Tanaka Pack; John Del Cueto)
Children’s Community Chorus

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

DEDICATION PRAYER Marlene Fox

HYMN “When O’er the Hills (Al Despuntar en la Loma el dia)” (Heber Romero)

When o’er the hills morning light is breaking,
once more your glory is born.
Filled with your joy all the fields are waking
and growing grass greets the morn.
A different day now is dawning
and yet, with fear, I am torn;
but you’re the same God each morning;
as the day dawns, I’m reborn,
but you’re the same God each morning;
as the day dawns, I’m reborn.

On the horizon the sun is blending
with hues of green coffee fields,
and from the bush there’s birdsong wending
till it a new life reveals.
The air with fragrance is swelling,
a sweet aroma I smell.
My song the heavens are telling:

“God indeed does all things well!”
My song the heavens are telling:
“God indeed does all things well!”

I want to be like a brook that’s flowing;
O how refreshing, such grace!
Or like the sound of soft wind blowing—
your thoughts through palm groves I’d trace.
I hear the rooster that’s crowing,
the thrilling birdsong takes wing!
My voice ascends and is flowing.
How I sing, God, how I sing!
My voice ascends and is flowing.
How I sing, God, how I sing!

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION • For all credits, visit [YouTube.com/MiddleChurch](https://www.youtube.com/MiddleChurch).

“When O’er the Hills (Al Despuntar en la Loma el dia)” Words and music © 1980 Heber Romero, La Liturgia Criolla. Used by permission. Eng. trans. and harm. © 2002 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725559.

THIS WEEK: TIRED, POOR, AND HUDDLED

- 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?

LAST WEEK: LOVE DISRUPTS THE OPPRESSIVE WHEEL

God does not want anyone to die.

However, sometimes evil cannot be reformed and must be shattered.

- How is God calling us to trust Her in this moment?
- How is She showing us a path to the promised land that does not require violence?

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

Gloria Cunningham Burgess, Amanda H Ashcraft, Marlene Fox, James Cunningham, Ade Williams, Charnise Mitchell; For all living beings who are affected by the fires and smoke on the West Coast, especially those who are unhoused, the farm workers and day laborers, the incarcerated. And for all of us, that we may find a healthier way of being in relationship with our Earth. We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

To make a prayer request, request a call from a Middle pastor, or inquire about financial assistance, visit middlechurch.org/prayer.

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— Fiscal Year 2021 is in full swing! Even in this time of uncertainty, we hope that you are encouraged that our community can band together and do amazing things! This year will be no different. With our annual programming, and newly created **Middle Collegiate Church Cancel Rent/Mortgage Program** and **Black Lives Matter Fund**, we are ready and excited to meet the needs of our community.

Our current budget requires \$900,000 in congregational giving by June 30, 2021 in order to fund our ministries and programs. We have no doubt that we can do this, but only with your help! **As of this printing, we have raised \$325,686** (\$131,314 actuals; \$194,372 recurring commitments). That puts us at **36%** of our June 30th goal of \$900,000!

We are THRILLED to share that a donor has made a \$50,000 pledge match to Middle Church, if we—the congregation— can match it in new cash and pledges by December 2020. Simply put, we need to raise \$50,000 of our annual goal in NEW recurring donations and pledges by **December 1, 2020** in order to receive this wonderful gift! This year's offering is critical to our vision and ministry. Can we count on you to make a pledge today? A weekly pledge of \$25 becomes an offering of \$1,200 for the year! No gift is too small. **Please make your donation online at middlechurch.org/donate or through Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch or by texting [Amount] to 917-924-4666.**

Middle family, we are so grateful to you for your love and generous spirit. It is because of you that we can make change that heals souls and the world. We know that this year has posed unbelievable stress for many, and we're here for you if you need help.

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



The Call Within

**Dismantling Racism
from the Inside Out**
with Rev. Jacqui Lewis, Ph.D.

CLICK HERE to register

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, SEPTEMBER 20

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 7:00 p.m.: [Mom Kornsgrove Cranberries and COVID *Night One*](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Introduction to the Hebrew Bible \(Old Testament\)](#)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 7:00 p.m.: [Mom Kornsgrove Cranberries and COVID *Night Two*](#)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 7:00 p.m.: [Queer Black Men in the Middle](#)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
- 6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing Group](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- 10:00 a.m.: [Revolutionary Parenting](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids' Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Chat and Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Young Adults Small Group](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)



Homecoming 2020:
HOME IS HERE

Home is...

Fighting to perfect our union
Ensuring Black Lives Matter
Protecting our neighbors
Caring for our church
Demanding fair pay
Voting for justice

Sunday, October 4
1:00 - 2:00 PM ET
112 2nd Ave or on Zoom

Learn more at
bit.ly/home-here



middle church
JUST LOVE

New 2020 Fall Programs

CLICK
HERE

MIDDLE CHURCH ZOOM COVENANT

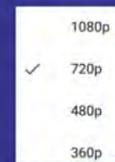
- Please take time before the meeting to download the Zoom app and/or familiarize yourself with zoom.us — it's easy and free to do so. **If you need help troubleshooting, [CLICK HERE](#).**
- Please visit this page at least 5 minutes before your meeting to ensure you are using the correct link for your 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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