

# middle church

JUST LOVE

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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JUNE 6, 2021 • 11:45 AM • JERRIESE JOHNSON GOSPEL CHOIR CONCERT

• GATHERING •

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

Tina Owens

**HYMN**

“Total Praise”

(Richard Smallwood)

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills  
Knowing my help is coming from You.  
Your peace You give me in time of the storm.

You are the source of my strength.  
You are the strength of my life.  
I lift my hands in total praise to You.

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.

• REFLECTING •

**MIDDLE RISING**

Darrell Hamilton

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** “Take It to the Lord in Prayer”

(Nolan Williams)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Darrell Hamilton

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.**

**Text BULLETIN to (833) 786-0733 to receive this week’s bulletin to your smart device.**

**CONGREGATIONAL AMEN**

Riqi Vélez

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Celebrating Graduates

**ANTHEM**

“Strong God”

(Kirk Franklin)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Ivan Anderson, lead

**SCRIPTURE**

Mark 3.20–35

Mary Morse

**SERMON**

“Binding the Strong Man”

Jacqui Lewis

• **RESPONDING** •

**COMMUNION**

Jacqui Lewis and John Janka

Gather for yourself and your household something to eat and something to drink. It can be bread and wine; crackers and grape juice; pancakes and coffee; French toast and mimosas; a piece of fruit and water. Everyone can participate, from the youngest to the oldest.

You will be invited to consecrate those ordinary elements with prayer, and the words of institution. And then we will eat together and drink together, communing with each other and with the Living God. You are welcome, just as you are, to participate in this special ritual of Grace and Love.

**INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

Deborah Berg McCarthy

**OFFERTORY**

“Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around” (Trad.; arr. D McClain-Freeney)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

Donate at [middlechurch.org/donate](http://middlechurch.org/donate) or Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch  
or Text GIVE to 917-924-4666

**DEDICATION PRAYER**

Sandra Santana

**HYMN**

“The Rich Man’s House”

(Traditional; arr. Anne Freeney)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

Well, I went down to the rich man’s house  
And I took back what he stole from me  
Took it back, took it back  
Took it back, took it back.  
REPEAT

Under my feet, under my feet  
Under my feet, under my feet  
Ain't gonna let the system walk all over me.  
REPEAT

Well, I went down to the landlord's house  
And I took back what he stole from me  
Took it back, took it back  
Took it back, took it back.  
REPEAT

Under my feet, under my feet  
Under my feet, under my feet  
Ain't gonna let the system walk all over me.  
REPEAT

## BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

**POSTLUDE** "Easter Medley" (Trad.; Holland Davis; arr. John Del Cueto/Dionne McClain-Freeney)

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

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**Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir** • John Del Cueto, Director of Worship • Ailah Inaba, America (Carolyn) Hart, Andreas Vaagt, Anne-Francois Potterat, Bernice Brooks, BettyJeanne Reuters-Ward, Bianca Toscano Michalczak, Carol Kissling, Chanelle Elaine, Charles Dietrich, Cheryl Cochran, Cornelia Zelter, Dana Gregory Rose, Dean Hubbard, Deborah Berg McCarthy, Deborah K Padgett, Devon Mosley, Don Arrington, Elaine Guardo, Elizabeth Merida, Elsa Lechner, Fabienne Doucet, Gary Posner, Gem Johnson, Geoffrey Perry, Gina Pemberton, Gloria Moy, Ibby Carothers, Ivan Anderson, Jana Quigley, Janet Laing, Janine Borchgrevink, Jennifer Coleman, Jennifer Cook, Jennifer Hopper, Jenny Holman, Jess Huber, Jessica Baen, Jim Pender, John Bryans, John Kirksey, Joy Lau, Julie Guerro, Junko Harada, Kaede Zaitzu-Helck, Karen Brightly, Karen Katz, Kashimi Asai, Kendra Krueger, Kristi Powell-Grenfell, Kristin Bebelaar, Laci Becket, Lauren Ashcraft, Leslie Davis, Linda Doria, Lisa Fenger, Mady Marantz, Maeve McBride, Marion Wise, Mary Morse, Matt Ackerman, Melissa Page Nichols, Mio Oyama, Miyuki Habiro, Momoyo Arai, Naoto Sawaki, Natalie Maust, Nathan Johnson, Olive Demetrius, Patricia E. Burch, Patrick Mulcahy, Paul Chernosky, Penny Lane, Pete Grenfell, Ray Shah, Riqi Velez, Rochelle Green, Ryan McNally, Samantha Waite, Sandra Anderson, Sandra Santana, Shari Carpenter, Silvia Rocciolo, Sophia Heinke, Sophie Fenwick, Svetlana Jovanovic, Tameka Phillips, Tina Cernero, Tina Owens, Tony Moran, Toshiko Noguchi, Zainab Musa

**Middle Church Band** • Dionne McClain-Freeney–Director of Music, piano; Jonathon Peretz, drums; Jeremy Price, Hammond organ; BAASSIK, Bass guitar.

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## Sermon in Action

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### THIS WEEK: BINDING THE STRONG MAN

- Mark draws a contest between (son of God) and evil. Where do you see that battle?
- Do your better angels ever duke it out with your lesser ones?
- How do we as people of faith engage powers and principalities in the public square?

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### LAST WEEK: LOVE IS AN ACTION!

- How can you turn “love into action”?
- Name a person who is no longer alive whose spirit embodies “Love as an Action”.
- In what ways can you invite the spirit of self care into your life to keep yourself “refueled and a flamed” as the scripture advises us?

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

**We are praying for all our Middle family every day.**

Mimi Calvert; Gloria Cunningham Burgess, Alicia Swain, Janna Myers, Sheila Robinson, Sheila Harding, Skip Reid, Drexel Cunningham, Mia McClain, Bridget Kelso Anthony, Amanda Ashcraft, Jacqui Lewis, Benjamin Perry, Michael Vanacore, Pam Payne, Louise Tatum, Renee Cunningham, Marshall Reddick Cunningham, and The Raider Nation.

**To make a prayer request**, request a call from a Middle pastor, or inquire about financial assistance, visit [middlechurch.org/prayer](http://middlechurch.org/prayer).

# Juneteenth Now get us free.

June 19, 2021

## A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

**LIVE Show at RIVERSIDE and Live Streamed  
5 PM ET Cocktails / 6 PM ET Show**

This evening showcasing talented performing artists includes a rare LIVE performance by Stephanie Mills who will debut her new single, “Let’s Do the Right Thing.” The night will be hosted by Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis and Rev. Michael Livingston and feature gospel, spoken word, dance, and jazz!



[bit.ly/juneteenth-now](http://bit.ly/juneteenth-now)

# Welcome to Middle Church

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**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](http://middlechurch.org).

**Text BULLETIN to (833) 786-0733 to receive this week's bulletin to your smart device.**

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**VIDEOS AND PODCASTS** — Worship music and sermon videos: [youtube.com/MiddleChurch](https://youtube.com/MiddleChurch).  
Re-watch the Worship Celebration livestream: [facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch).  
Middle Church Celebrations podcast: [middlechurch.org/podcasts](http://middlechurch.org/podcasts).

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**DEAR MIDDLE FAMILY**— The Consistory, Darren, and I are sending you love and hope that we can help God's dream of a just world come to fruition.

We are excited to keep putting Revolutionary Love in the world! Our digital worship and programs are more important than ever, as we partner with allies and accomplices across the nation to redeem the soul of America. We do this ongoing this work, even as we partner with our Collegiate colleagues to rise and reconstruct our sacred spaces. Our community, our city, this nation, and neighbors around the globe are being super generous to us. **As of today, we have received \$1,276,918.36 toward Middle Rising. By June 30, 2021, we expect an additional \$3,562.34 from recurring commitments you have made, as well as \$60,946.68 from your pledges for an expected total of \$ 1,341,427.38.**

The fire didn't deter our movement building. We must continue to fund our ministry programming. **As of today, we have received \$587,900.48 to fund our ministries, programs, and operations. We expect to receive an additional \$17,845.12 from your recurring commitments, and \$4,800 in pledges by June 30, 2021, which will be 67.8% (or \$610,545.60) of our \$900,000 goal.**

- **To support our ongoing ministry, programs, and operations**, visit [middlechurch.org/donate](http://middlechurch.org/donate)  
OR donate through Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch or text GIVE to (917)924-4666.
- **To support our Middle Rising rebuilding efforts**, visit [middlechurch.org/Rising](http://middlechurch.org/Rising)  
OR text RISE to (917)924-4666.

We still receive mail at **Middle Collegiate Church, 50 East 7th Street, New York, NY 10003**.  
Some donations may require our EIN: 13-5564117 — Middle Collegiate Church aka Ministers, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York.

Family, Middle Church is still on the rise! Thank you for all you do. It's not the fire, it's the rising!

—In gratitude, Jacqui, Darren, and Middle Consistory.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, June 27  
at 10:30 a.m. EST**

# Middle Virtual Gatherings

All events are listed in ET unless noted.

Visit [middlechurch.org](http://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, JUNE 6

- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids' Enrichment](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Middle Youth](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Chat and Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Middle Out Loud](#)
- 6:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

## MONDAY, JUNE 7

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

## TUESDAY, JUNE 8

- 10:30 a.m.: [Virtual Coffee with Rev. Darrell](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Supporting Mental Health During COVID](#)

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men in the Middle](#)

## THURSDAY, JUNE 10

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

## SATURDAY, JUNE 12

- 2:00 p.m.: [Hablamos: Immigration Forum](#)
- 6:00 p.m.: [Staying Connected While Staying In](#)

## SUNDAY, JUNE 13

- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Wee Care](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Virtual New Members' Gathering](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids' Enrichment](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Chat and Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)

# Juneteenth Now get us free.

## June 20, 2021



REV. DR. JACQUI LEWIS

PROF. ANNETTE GORDON-REED

## ANTI-RACISM LAB & WORKSHOP

MIDDLE CHURCH Live Streamed Teach-in  
1 PM ET

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis will be in conversation with Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Prof. Annette Gordon-Reed, author of *On Juneteenth*. What can the Juneteenth story teach us about our present fight for freedom? And we'll dig into the history of systemic racism.

[bit.ly/juneteenth-now](http://bit.ly/juneteenth-now)

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## MIDDLE CHURCH ZOOM COVENANT

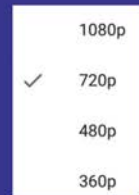
- Please take time before the meeting to download the Zoom app and/or familiarize yourself with zoom.us — it's easy and free to do so. **If you need help troubleshooting, [CLICK HERE](#).**
- Please visit this page at least 5 minutes before your meeting to ensure you are using the correct link for your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

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### 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](#)

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## MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH IS ON LENAPE LAND ON TURTLE ISLAND.

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### MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

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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.

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### MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

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Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. – *Senior Minister in Charge*

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

Rev. Darrell Hamilton – *Exec. Minister for Operations & Resource Development*

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

Rev. Natalie Perkins – *Director of Digital Ministry*

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#### CONSISTORY

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##### ELDERS

Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D.

Ivan Anderson

Vickie Burns

Pete Grenfell

Darren Johnston CHAIR

Gerald Lazore

Hadaryah Morgan

Claudia Slacik

Shanta Thake

Tom Smucker INTERSECTIONS

##### DEACONS

Edna Benitez

Deborah Berg McCarthy

Thelma Boyiri

Pamela Edgar

Beth Ellor

Kelly Smith

Dennis Barton INTERSECTIONS

##### LOCAL DEACONS

Linda Doria

Johanna Goepel

Vincent Parham

Sandra Santana

Kaede Zaitzu-Helck

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- To support our Middle Rising rebuilding efforts, visit [middlechurch.org/Rising](http://middlechurch.org/Rising) OR text RISE to (917)924-4666.

