

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JUNE 13, 2021 • 11:45 AM • PRIDE MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Lord, Help Me to Hold Out”

(James Cleveland)

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

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Siyahamba”

Terreno Burroughs

Elise Tiralli

(South African Traditional Song)

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

MIDDLE RISING

Graham Bridgeman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD’S PRAYER

Graham Bridgeman

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

John Del Cueto

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Sarah Brook, Jessica Baen, and Gabrielle Baen-Brook

ANTHEM

“Hold on a Little While Longer”

(African-American Spiritual)

L Morgan Lee, voice • Kendall Ramseur, cello

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 17.1–7

Jess Huber

SERMON

“The Power of Naming”

Jacqui Lewis

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Joey Morelli

OFFERTORY

“Authentically”

(Ivan Anderson/Dionne McClain-Freeney)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Ivan Anderson, lead

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

DEDICATION PRAYER

Darrell Hamilton

HYMN

“Be Now My Vision”

(Traditional; arr. Anne Freeney)

Middle Church Choir

Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.

Riches I need not, nor life’s empty praise;
you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only, are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

POSTLUDE

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

"Be Now My Vision" • Word alterations Copyright © 1992 The Pilgrim Press.

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: THE POWER OF NAMING

- The God of the breasts is the female nature of God, who has both what humans would call feminine and masculine attributes. How do you experience those aspects?
 - We who are in God's image are also *anima* and *amimas*. How do you experience yourself in that regard?
 - This two-spirit nature of humankind is as old as time. How did we get so strident and simplistic about the binary, in your mind? How can we undo this?
-

LAST 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?
-

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

For strength to move forward with hope; Josie, Stewart, Joslow, Akyuz and Saraullo families; Gloria Cunningham Burgess, Alicia Swain, Janna Myers, Sheila Robinson, Renee Cunningham, Marshall Drexel Cunningham, Valencia Armijio, Brittany Davis, Reddick Cunningham, Sheila Harding, Skip Reid, Amanda Ashcraft, Jacqui Lewis, 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.

**EARLY VOTING for New Yorkers
is July 12–20, 2021.**

PRIMARY DAY is June 22, 2021.

**Make a plan to vote today!
Visit vote.nyc for more information**

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.

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

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— 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 \$1,286,030.63 toward Middle Rising. By June 30, 2021, we expect an additional \$2,167.48 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 \$599,737.40 to fund our ministries, programs, and operations. We expect to receive an additional \$12,469.67 from your recurring commitments, and \$4,800 in pledges by June 30, 2021, which will be 68.5% (or \$617,007.07) of our \$900,000 goal.**

- **To support our ongoing ministry, programs, and operations**, visit 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
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 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 13

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

MONDAY, JUNE 14

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

- 10:30 a.m.: [Virtual Coffee with Rev. Darrell](#)
- 5:00 p.m.: [Reparations Task Force](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Queer Roundtable Discussion](#)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Ukuleliacs](#)

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

- 6:00 p.m.: [Juneteenth Now 2021: Get Us Free](#)

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Middle Youth](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Juneteenth Now 2021: Get Us Free](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 6:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)



Juneteenth Now June 19 & 20
get us free. | Tix: bit.ly/juneteenth-now

← Including teach-in with Prof. Annette Gordon-Reed, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian of *On Juneteenth*



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. 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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Shanta Thake

Tom Smucker INTERSECTIONS

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- To support our ongoing ministry, programs, and operations, visit 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 OR text RISE to (917)924-4666.

