

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JUNE 20, 2021 • 11:45 AM • JUNETEENTH • PRIDE MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

(James Weldon Johnson; J. Rosamund Johnson)

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith
that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun Of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way
that with tears has been watered;
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, Till we now stand at last,
Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.

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

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might, Led us into the light,
Keep us for ever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine
of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, May we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Siyahamba”
Terreno Burroughs

Wesley Rowell
(South African Traditional Song)

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

MIDDLE RISING

Darrell Hamilton

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / 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.**

CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

Wesley Rowell

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Unthank O’Neal Family

ANTHEM

“The Storm Is Passing Over”
Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Adrienne Hurd and Lutin Tanner, dancers
(Charles A. Tindley)

SCRIPTURE

Mark 4.35–41

Jacqui Lewis

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION “If we must die”

from *3 Songs for Baritone and Piano, Op. 41*
Sidney Outlaw, baritone • Dr. Hsin-i Huang, piano

(Text: Claude McKay;
Music: Robert Owens)

SERMON

“Shelter in a Time of Storm”

Jacqui Lewis

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Yusuf George

OFFERTORY “Glory, unplugged” (Lynn, Stephens, Smith; arr. Dionne McClain-Freeney)
Performers: Ivan Anderson, Alex Bertrand, Madge Dietrich,
Dionne McClain-Freeney
Jonathon Peretz, percussion; Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano

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

DEDICATION PRAYER

Natalie Renee Perkins

HYMN “Jesus Is a Rock” (Trad.; arr., incl. verses Dionne McClain-Freeney)
Filmed at The Riverside Church

Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land
Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm
Oh, oh Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land
Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm

CALL: When my ship is tossin’ on a blust’ry sea

RESPONSE: A weary land, a weary land

CALL: Jesus is my Savior, He rescues me

RESPONSE: A shelter in a time of storm

CALL: When I’m far from home, can’t see my way,

RESPONSE: A weary land, a weary land

CALL: Jesus turns my midnight into day

RESPONSE: A shelter in a time of storm

Oh, oh Lord, you are my rock in a weary land, a weary land,
a weary land

Lord, you are my rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm

Jesus, walk with me, be my rock through the storm

Jesus, walk with me — You’re my rock

Lord, you are my rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land

Lord, you are my rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm

A shelter in a time of storm, a shelter in a time of storm

You are a shelter in a time of storm!

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

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" • Text: James W. Johnson; Tune: J. Rosamund Johnson, © 1921 (renewed) Edward B. Marks Music Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725559.

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: SHELTER IN A TIME OF STORM

- Charles Albert Tindley's hymns chart his experience with the liberating love of God. What song sings your faith?
 - Are you feeling stormy about the state of our nation? How will your faith change the weather?
 - How does this movement of "LOVE. Period" inspire you to use your resources to create "shelter in a time of storm?"
-

LAST 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?

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Winston Smith and Winston's father, Dwayne Jiron; Gloria Cunningham Burgess, Alicia Swain, Janna Myers, Sheila Robinson, Renee Cunningham, Sheila Harding, Skip Reid, Drexel Cunningham, Mia McClain, Bridget Kelso Anthony, Amanda Ashcraft, Jacqui Lewis, Pam Payne, Brittany Davis, Reddick Cunningham, The Raider Nation.

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

**EARLY VOTING for New Yorkers
is June 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 \$1,288,855.82 toward Middle Rising. By June 30, 2021, we expect an additional \$1,299.59 from recurring commitments you have made, as well as \$60,946.68 from your pledges for an expected total of \$ 1,351,102.09.**

The fire didn't deter our movement building. We must continue to fund our ministry programming. **As of today, we have received \$609,146.35 to fund our ministries, programs, and operations. We expect to receive an additional \$7,442.67 from your recurring commitments, and \$4,800 in pledges by June 30, 2021, which will be 69% (or \$621,389.02) 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 Events Calendar

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 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](#)

MONDAY, JUNE 21

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

- 7:00 p.m.: [Queer Faith: Beyond the Gender Binary](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Mental Health Support Group](#)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

- 12:00 p.m.: [Pop Up Vaccination Site](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [¡Hablamos!](#)

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

- 10:00 a.m.: [Revolutionary Parenting](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Congregational Meeting](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Pride Fest](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Pride Sunday Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Chat and Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 2:30 p.m.: [Reclaim Pride March](#)

Juneteenth Now
get us free.

June 20, 2021

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

MIDDLE CHURCH ZOOM COVENANT

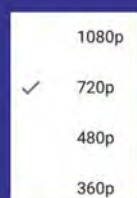
- Please take time before the meeting to download the Zoom app and/or familiarize yourself with zoom.us — it's easy and free to do so. **If you need help troubleshooting, [CLICK HERE](#).**
- Please visit this page at least 5 minutes before your meeting to ensure you are using the correct link for your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

