

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JULY 11, 2021 • 11:45 AM • RISING TO FIERCE LOVE

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Will You Be There?”

(Michael Jackson)

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

Hold me, like the River Jordan
And I will then say to thee
You are my friend
Carry me, like you are my brother
Love me like a mother
Will you be there?

Weary, tell me will you hold me
When wrong, will you scold me
When lost will you find me?
But they told me that I should be faithful
And walk when not able
And fight 'til the end but I'm only human

Everyone's taking control of me
Seems that the world's got a role for me,
I'm so confused, will you show to me
You'll be there for me
And care enough to bear me

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

Hold me, lay your head lowly
Softly then boldly, Carry me there
Hold me, love me and feed me
Kiss me and free me, I will feel blessed
Carry me, carry me boldly
Lift me up slowly, Carry me there
Save me, heal me and bathe me
Softly you say to me, I will be there

Lift me, lift me up slowly
Carry me boldly, Show me you care
Hold me, lay your head lowly
Softly then boldly, Carry me there
Need me, love me and feed me
Kiss me and free me, I will feel blessed

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Siyahamba”

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

Elise Tiralli

(South African Traditional Song)

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

MIDDLE RISING

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

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

Renaissance Amen

PASSING OF THE PEACE “How has Middle given you peace in this last year?”

ANTHEM

“God Has Smiled on Me”

Samantha Waite, soloist

(Isaiah Jones, Jr.; arr. J. Homme, M. Lalli)

SCRIPTURE 2 Samuel 6.1–12 Darrell Hamilton

SERMON “I’m Not Gon’ Let You Mishandle Me” Darrell Hamilton

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Jacqui Lewis

OFFERTORY “God Made Me Who I Am” (Jules Bartholomew)
Gospel Ensemble

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @**MiddleCollegiateChurch**
or Text GIVE to 833-786-0733

DEDICATION PRAYER John Del Cueto

HYMN “Ride On, King Jesus” (Trad; arr. Dionne McClain-Freeney)
Robert Hughes, soloist

Ride on, King Jesus
No man can a-hinder Thee!
Ride on, King Jesus
No man can a-hinder Thee!

In that great gettin’ up morning, fare thee well
In that great gettin’ up morning, fare thee well
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on!

BENEDICTION Darrell Hamilton

POSTLUDE

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

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: I'M NOT GON' LET YOU MISHANDLE ME

- God shows us that boundaries are important for living a life of faith. Where in your own life do you perceive a need to reset appropriate boundaries? Or, to honor appropriate boundaries that have been set for you?
- Dr. King said, "Riots are the language of the unheard." Likewise, outbursts are often the outgrowth of repeated mistreatment. How can we be better to communicate when we are being mistreated, or respond to the mistreatment of others, before an outburst occurs?
- Worship is an act of celebration and reverence (proper handling) of holy things. How can you be better at giving celebration and reverence to the holy things in your life?

LAST WEEK: PROPHETS AMONG US

- How can you be in better solidarity with trans, non-binary, and gender variant folx? What do you need to unlearn about gender in order to do so?
- Who are the prophets among you and your community that you might have overlooked? What can you learn from them?
- Is there anything keeping your body from being a site of liberation for yourself and others? What will help you become free?

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Emily Hollenbeck; C and all those who struggle with postpartum mental health challenges; 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, Pam Payne Family, Marc Aronson, Bridget Kelso Anthony, Mia McClain, Cori Margolin, Mitch Stein, Catherine Vail, and 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/.

A graphic for 'Middle Mixer: Game Night'. It features a stylized background with two vertical yellow bars and two horizontal yellow bars. A large pink 'X' is overlaid on the center. The text 'Middle Mixer:' is in bold black, and 'Game Night' is in a larger bold black font. Below that, it says 'Join us on Zoom for conversation & laughter - bring your competitive spirit!'. At the bottom, it says 'TUE, JULY 13, 2021' and '6-7 PM ET via ZOOM'. There are teal circular accents in the corners.

Middle Mixer:

Game Night

Join us on Zoom for conversation &
laughter - bring your competitive spirit!

TUE, JULY 13, 2021

6-7 PM ET via ZOOM

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—

Giving at Middle — With summer in full bloom, we have turned the corner into our new fiscal and programming year at Middle Church (July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022). Our Consistory has approved our annual budget and we the congregation have a goal to raise \$1,000,000 in contributions this year to fund our ministry programming. This brings us in line with our agreed-upon target of funding 50% of our budget by 2022. We are SO excited about what is in store for this community of love and justice seekers this year as we continue to claim and reframe Christianity from a place of Love. Period.

Please take a moment to let us know how you plan to invest in powering this movement with your gifts this year by using the options below, or feel free to reach out to our Director of Development, Devon Mosley (stewardship@middlechurch.org) to discuss your giving plans.

To support our ongoing ministry, programs, and operations:

- Visit middlechurch.org/donate
- Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch
- Text **GIVE** to **833-786-0733**

To support our Middle Rising rebuilding efforts as we continue plans for our future space:

- Visit middlechurch.org/rising
- Venmo @Middle Rising
- Text **GIVE** to **833-786-0733** (select **Middle Rising**)

To mail contributions to Middle Church, please address them to:

- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.
50 East 7th Street, New York, NY 10003

Charitable Giving may require use of Middle Collegiate Church's EIN: 13-5564117 (aka "Ministers, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York")

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

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, JULY 11

- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 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](#)

MONDAY, JULY 12

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

TUESDAY, JULY 13

- 5:45 p.m.: [Reparations Task Force](#)
- 6:00 p.m.: [Middle Mixer: Game Night](#)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

- 7:00 p.m.: [July New Members Gathering](#)
- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men in the Middle](#)

THURSDAY, JULY 15

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

SUNDAY, JULY 18

- 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.: [Chat and Chew](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Middle Mixer in Tompkins Square Park](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

Want to gather in-person?

July 18, 2 p.m. ET: Tompkins Square Park

August 15, 2 p.m. ET: Central Park

September 21: Marcus Garvey Park

Middle

Summer

Mixers

For Non-NYC Gatherings & COVID Precautions: middlechurch.org/mixers

MIDDLE CHURCH ZOOM COVENANT

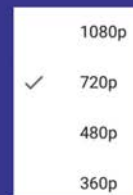
- Please take time before the meeting to download the Zoom app and/or familiarize yourself with zoom.us — it's easy and free to do so. **If you need help troubleshooting, [CLICK HERE](#).**
- Please visit this page at least 5 minutes before your meeting to ensure you are using the correct link for your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

ELDERS

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Claudia Slacik

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Tom Smucker INTERSECTIONS

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Kaede Zaitzu-Helck

- **To support our ongoing ministry, programs, and operations:** Visit middlechurch.org/donate • Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch • Text GIVE to 833-786-0733
- **To support our Middle Rising rebuilding efforts:** Visit middlechurch.org/rising • Venmo @Middle Rising • Text GIVE to 833-786-0733 (select Middle Rising)

