

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 • 11:45 AM • HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Wesley Rowell

HYMN

“Great Is the Lord”

(Jonathan McReynolds)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Ensemble

Great is the Lord, my Comforter
You have never failed me yet
Through all my trials, tribulations, You will deliver
You're the Greatest One, You're God

Great is the Lord, my Conqueror
You have never left me yet
In all my days, I've never seen the righteous forsaken
You're the Greatest One, You're God

Great is the Lord, my Warrior
You have never lost one yet
The enemy comes like a flood, but you raise the standard
You're the Greatest One, You're God

Great is the Lord!

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Elise Tiralli

MIDDLE RISING

Natalie Perkins

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD’S PRAYER

Natalie Perkins

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.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Middle Family

Join your Middle family in break-out rooms to pass the peace.

ANTHEM

“Glorious”

(Martha Munizzi)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

SCRIPTURE

James 3.13–4.3, 8

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

SERMON

“Unprecedented Times Call for Revolutionary Care”

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Michelle Lee

OFFERTORY

“Homeward Bound”

(Paul Simon)

Branch Woodman, soloist

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

DEDICATION PRAYER

Wesley Rowell

HYMN

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

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

Ain’t gonna let nobody turn me around,
Turn me around, turn me around,
Ain’t gonna let nobody turn me around,
I’m gonna keep on walkin’, keep on talkin’,
Marching up to freedom land.

Ain’t gonna let injustice turn me around,
Turn me around, turn me around,
Ain’t gonna let injustice turn me around,



I'm gonna keep on walkin', keep on talkin',
Marching up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let racism turn me around,
Turn me around, turn me around,
Ain't gonna let racism turn me around,
I'm gonna keep on walkin', keep on talkin',
Marching up to freedom land.

Don't let nobody turn you,
Don't let nobody turn you,
Don't let nobody turn you,
Keep on walkin', keep on talkin',
Marching up to freedom land.

BENEDICTION

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

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

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: UNPRECEDENTED TIMES CALL FOR REVOLUTIONARY CARE

- Why is the need for collective care so essential?
- How might the Church be a teaching agent for collective care?
- How have you been a recipient of or a giver of collective care?

LAST WEEK: TIPS ON HOW TO GET UNSTUCK

- How do you honor and move forward?
- Where do you find joy in our fight?
- What is stuck in your body? How can you release it?

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Katherine, John S.; Lorraine, Seve, Jackie, Joe; 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 Mia McClain Bridget Kelso Anthony Joe Tigner Robert Cunningham Vallory Leca Devora Jones Louise Tatum Michael Bos Victoria Dillard Stacey Cameron Jessie Mateo and The Raider Nation; Teens from Episcopal Free Church–Province of Burundi, East Africa.

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.

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/MiddleNYC.
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 @MiddleRising
- 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 Johnston—Consistory Chair, and the Middle Church Consistory

Middle Mixer!
In-Person Summer Gathering
SEP 21 • 6:00 PM • St. Nicholas Park
CLICK HERE for more information

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, SEPTEMBER 19

- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:30 a.m.: [Rev. Natalie on the Run Worship Watch Party: Prospect Park, Brooklyn](#)
(cancelled in the event of rain)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Interactive Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Chat and Chew: Reentry Roundtable](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 5:45 p.m.: [Reparations Task Force](#)
- 6:00 p.m.: [Middle Mixer at St. Nicholas Park](#)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men in the Middle](#)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- 10:30 a.m.: [Revolutionary Parenting](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:30 a.m.: [Rev. Natalie on the Run Worship Watch Party: Fort Tryon Park, Manhattan](#)
(cancelled in the event of rain)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Interactive Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Reparations Listening Circle](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 4:00 p.m.: [Middle Youth](#)

Middle

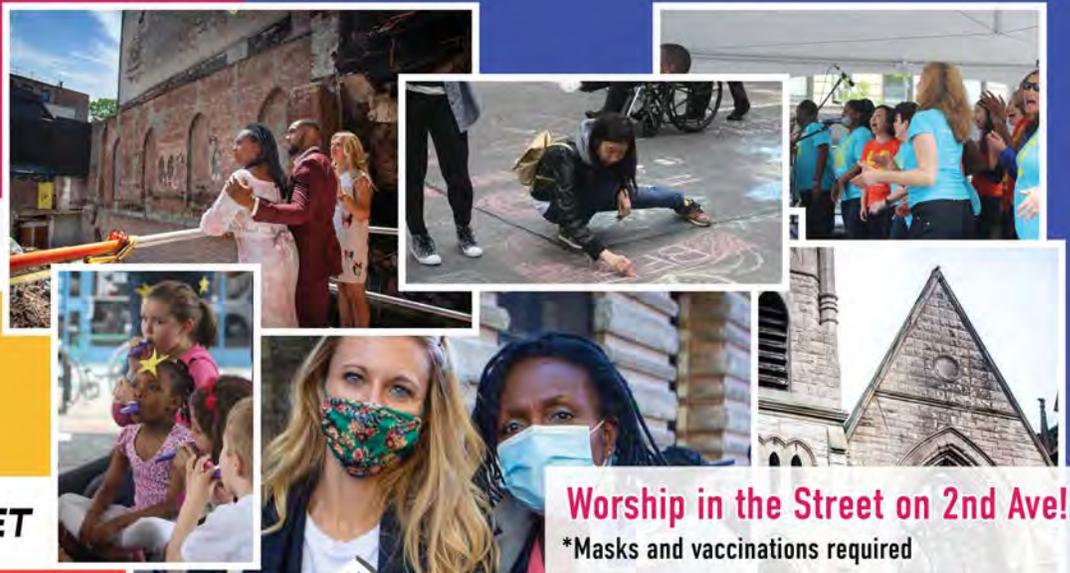
SUNDAY

Church

OCT. 3 | 11 AM ET

Homecoming

CLICK HERE for more information



Worship in the Street on 2nd Ave!

*Masks and vaccinations required

Registration is required to attend,
and space is limited! RSVP at:
middlechurch.org/homecoming

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 – *Executive Minister for Justice and Community Development*

Rev. Darrell Hamilton – *Executive Minister for Operations and Resource Development*

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

Rev. Natalie Perkins – *Director of Digital Ministry*

SANCTUARY 112 Second Avenue (at 7th St.)

Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch

OFFICE 50 East 7th Street

Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis

New York, NY 10003

YouTube.com/MiddleNYC

TELEPHONE 212-477-0666

Instagram.com/middlechurch

CARE LINE 212-477-0666 ext. 318

Instagram.com/revjacquilewis

E-MAIL middleinfo@middlechurch.org

Twitter.com/middlechurch

WEBSITE middlechurch.org

Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis

CONSISTORY

ELDERS

Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D.

Ivan Anderson

Vickie Burns

Pete Grenfell

Darren Johnston CHAIR

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- **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 @MiddleRising • Text **GIVE** to **833-786-0733** (select **Middle Rising**)