

middle church



JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

DECEMBER 5, 2021 • 11:45 AM • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Darren Major

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Runyon Vizioli Family

HYMN

“Woke Up This Mornin’”

(Trad.)

Woke up this mornin’ with my mind,
stayed on freedom.

Woke up this mornin’ with my mind,
stayed on freedom.

Woke up this mornin’ with my mind,
stayed on freedom.

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Walkin’ and talkin’ with my mind, ...

Ain’t no harm to keep your mind, ...

• REFLECTING •

SCRIPTURE “One Year Later: Rising from the Fire”

SERMON “Found in the Fire”

Jacqui Lewis

PILGRIMAGE TO MIDDLE CHURCH SANCTUARY

Digital pilgrimage happening concurrently while congregation walks to Middle

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

DANCE "Breath of Heaven Redux"
Adrienne Hurd, dancer

• RESPONDING •

COMMUNION Middle Clergy

Gather for yourself and your household something to eat and something to drink. 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.

Those who are here in person, please join in our ritual, and then you will pick up your "bread and cup" and then partake outside, together. No matter who you are or where you are, you are welcome, just as you are, to participate in this special ritual of Grace and Love.

SENDING FORTH Jacqui Lewis

HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (John Francis Wade)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

We give Her all the praises;
We give Her all the praises;
We give Her all the praises, glory to God!

But God alone is worthy;
But God alone is worthy;
But God alone is worthy, glory to God!

O come, let us adore Them;
O come, let us adore Them;
O come, let us adore Them, Christ, the Lord!

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

Musician • Dionne McClain-Freeney, keyboards

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: FOUND IN THE FIRE

- In the midst of all the fires this past year—the pandemic, painful discourse in the public square, and our sanctuary fire—what did you find?

LAST WEEK: BETWEEN 'NOW' AND 'NOT YET'

- What's your dream for tomorrow?
- What promise do you want God to keep?
- What are you willing to do to partner with God?

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Oxford High School; 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 Connie Acquah Darrell Hamilton Ben Perry Joy Rosenthal 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/.



middlechurch.org/advent-and-christmas-at-middle/

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 podcast: middlechurch.org/podcasts.

GIVING AT MIDDLE—

Dear Middle Family —

The crisp fall air is here and we are moving into our season of Fierce Love! The Consistory approved our annual budget in June and we kicked off our fiscal and programming year July 1, 2021. **As a congregation we have a goal to raise 50% of the annual budget, which is \$1,000,000 in contributions this year to fund our ministry programming. To date, we have received \$312,255.26.**

We are so grateful for the ways you show up to power this ministry and would love to hear what your pledge plans may be for this year. Please take a moment to let us know how you plan to invest in this movement this year by using the options below, or by reaching out to our Stewardship Director, Devon Mosley (stewardship@middlechurch.org) to discuss your giving plan.

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.

Love—

Jacqui, Darren Johnston—Consistory Chair, and the entire Middle Church Consistory

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.
240 East 10th Street—Suite 8C, New York, NY 10003

DONATE BY PHONE

To make a donation to Middle Church, scan the code below with your smartphone camera.



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")

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, DECEMBER 5

Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Special Worship Celebration at Calvary and Pilgrimage to Middle Church Sanctuary](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew: Grief on the Anniversary of the Fire](#)
- 1:30 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 5:45 p.m.: [Reparations Task Force](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Fierce Love: An Advent Study](#)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 5:00 p.m.: [¡Hablamos! Parranda Navideña](#)
- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men in the Middle](#)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
 - 6:00 p.m.: [Young Adults Small Group](#)
 - 6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing Group](#)
 - 7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Third Sunday of Advent

- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [December New Members Gathering](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Queer Holiday 'Tude](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Middle Church events, activities, and the latest updates, scan the code below with your smartphone camera.



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*

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YouTube.com/MiddleNYC

Instagram.com/middlechurch

Instagram.com/revjacquilewis

Twitter.com/middlechurch

Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis