

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JANUARY 16, 2022 • 11:45 AM

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“I Don’t Know What You Come to Do”

(Trad.)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

I don’t know what you come to do,
I come to praise the Lord.

I don’t know what you come to do,
I come to praise the Lord.

I don’t know what you come to do,
I come to praise the Lord.

I don’t know what you come to do,
I come to praise the Lord.

I come to do my dance, my dance.
I come to do my dance, my dance.

I come to sing my song, my song.
I come to sing my song, my song.

I come to lift my hands, my hands.
I come to lift my hands, my hands.

I don’t know what you come to do,
I come to praise the Lord....

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

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Siyahamba”

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

Darrell Hamilton

(South African Traditional Song)

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

(Trad.)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Middle Family

When the God in us sees the God in our neighbor, we bow to them, and say, Namaste.
Please place your palms together and share a sign of peace and acknowledgement with your neighbors (a none-touch passing of the peace). Thank you!

ANTHEM

“Freedom”

Written and performed by Celisse Henderson

Co-Choreographers / Co-Directors • Adrienne Hurd, Lutin Tanner

Dancers • Rubi Guzmán, Selina Hack, Anthony Santos,

La-Chelle M. Dickenson, Charles E. Scheland, Martina Viadana,

Lutin Tanner, Lucien Tanner, Adrienne Hurd

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 36.5–10

Jacqui Lewis

SERMON

“Ain’t It Shocking What Love Can Do!”

Jacqui Lewis

SERMONIC PRAYER “Precious Lord”

(Trad.)

Angela Birchett, soloist • Chris Whittaker, pianist

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Mitch Wood

OFFERTORY "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

(John Newton)

Jeremy Price, Hammond organ

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @[@MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://www.instagram.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

DEDICATION PRAYER

Ben Perry

HYMN "We Shall Overcome"

(Trad.; Tituss Burgess)

Juneteenth 2020 Choir

We shall overcome,
We shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday!

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

POSTLUDE

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

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: AIN'T IT SHOCKING WHAT LOVE CAN DO!

- How does God's unfailing love for all creation source our love of self?
- What does it mean for us to take refuge in God and create refuge for others?
- Connect the dots between a Beloved Community and a Just Community.

LAST WEEK: INTO THE UNKNOWN

- What unknowns are you walking into this new year?
- How do you plan to face them?

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

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 Acquaaah Darrell Hamilton Ben Perry Cori Margolin Joy Rosenthal Dolly Catherine Vail Jessie Matei Natalie Perkins Damaris Whittaker and The Raider Nation to get into the playoffs.

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 podcast: middlechurch.org/podcasts.

GIVING AT MIDDLE—

Dear Middle Family —

Happy New Year! We're making good strides on achieving our congregational goal of \$1,050,000 in contributions (that's 50% of our operating budget) this year to fund our ministry programming. **We're at the half-way mark in our programming and fiscal year and, to date, we have received \$523,005.** We are so grateful for the ways you show up to power this ministry which allows us to continue being love in action to heal our world!

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 contacting 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 in 2022 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

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

- Visit middlechurch.org/rising
- Venmo @MiddleRising

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

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")

DONATE BY PHONE

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



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, JANUARY 16

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Congregational Meeting](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Virtual Worship Celebration](#) — **NO in-person worship celebration!**
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:30 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)
- 1:30 p.m.: [King Day Teach-In: How to Build Beloved Community with Fierce Love](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Church Office Holiday**

- 12:00–1:30 p.m.: **MLK Day of Service: Rising for Child Literacy** — Education of children was a key component to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of beloved community. Come by Middle Church (50 East 7th St.) to donate new or gently used children's books that will be delivered to a local organization in need. You can also post a note describing your "dream" for beloved community.
- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

- 6:00 p.m.: [Seeking Stained Glass Softness](#)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Ukuleliacs](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Freedom Rising Salon: Rising to Beloved Community](#)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Revolutionary Parenting: Caregivers Roundtable](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Virtual Worship Celebration](#) — **NO in-person worship celebration!**
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)

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

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Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis