

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JANUARY 23, 2022 • 11:45 AM

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

HYMN

“Woke Up This Mornin’”

(Trad.; arr. John Del Cueto)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

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.

Ain’t no harm to keep your mind, stayed on freedom ...

Walkin’ and talkin’ with my mind, stayed on freedom ...

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Elise Tiralli

“Siyahamba”

(South African Traditional Song)

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

MIDDLE RISING

Darrell Hamilton

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “Be Thou My Vision”

(Dallan Forgaill, arr. John Del Cueto)

Shannon Ashleigh Navarro, soloist

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

Sandra Santana

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

“Rise Up”

(Cassandra Monique Batie; Jennifer Decilveo)

Caelyn Osbern, soloist

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4.14–21

Jacqui Lewis

SERMON

“Release. Recovery. Reparations. OH MY!”

Jacqui Lewis

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT “The Fire: This Time”

OFFERTORY “Today”

(Kirk Franklin)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Alex Bertrand, Samantha Waite, soloists

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @**MiddleCollegiateChurch**

DEDICATION PRAYER

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

HYMN

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

(Trad.)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me ...

I'm gonna pray so God can use me ...

I'm gonna sing so God can use me ...

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: RELEASE. RECOVERY. REPARATIONS. OH MY!

- Jesus' call to ministry is ours; we are the living Body of X. What does it mean to preach good news to the poor, release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind?

LAST 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.

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Lorraine, Joe, Uncle Seve, Aunt Jackie; Tita Becky, Tito Bio, Ate Ma-Lou; 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 Cori Margolin Joy Rosenthal Dolly Catherine Vail Jessie Matei and The Raider Nation; Bethany Culp; Abundant redeeming grace — grace upon grace. Restoration, God's justice and mercy, and healing of heart, mind, body, and soul. Shame, weakness, and disgrace be replaced with strength, dignity, and honor. Strongholds against God be torn down and for God's authority, kindness, and zeal. Transformative power of the Holy Spirit and repentance where repentance is needed—for humble, soft, prayerful, worshipful hearts that seek God first. Pray in the power of the Holy Spirit. More workers for the harvest, and that Jesus would be king over us and come and heal our land. Salvation of lost family, friends and loved ones. Discernment, wisdom and understanding for our leaders and their advisors. Our leaders would be filled with and led by the Holy Spirit of God. Freedom, deliverance, and restoration. All of God's blessings and promises would come to pass.

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 \$580,674.21.** 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 23

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Revolutionary Parenting: Caregivers Roundtable Discussion](#)
- 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](#)

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

- 6:00 p.m.: [Seeking Stained Glass Softness](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Interfaith Program with Brotherhood Synagogue](#)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 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](#)
- 5:00 p.m.: [13th Annual Spiritual Sounds in the East Village](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Dinner Party](#)

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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