

# middle church

JUST LOVE

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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MARCH 13, 2022 • 11:45 AM • WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

"One Foot/Lead with Love"

(Melanie DeMore)

CHORUS

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love  
Put one foot in front of the other, and lead with love.

*Don't give up hope—*      Don't give up hope  
*You're not alone—*      You're not alone  
*Don't you give up—*      Don't you give up  
*Keep movin' on—*      Keep movin' on

CHORUS

*Lift up your eyes—*      Lift up your eyes  
*Don't you despair—*      Don't you despair  
*Look up ahead—*      Look up ahead  
*The path is there—*      The path is there

CHORUS

*I know you're scared—*      I know you're scared  
*And I'm scared too—*      And I'm scared too  
*But here I am—*      But here I am  
*Right next to you—*      Right next to you

CHORUS

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.

Alesha Borbo Kilayko  
(South African Traditional Song)

**MIDDLE RISING**

Jacqui Lewis

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “Ubi Caritas”**

(Ola Gjeilo)

Middle Women’s Ensemble

*Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Christ’s love has gathered us into one.  
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.  
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.  
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.*

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Jacqui Lewis

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

**ANTHEM**

“What Shall I Render”

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

(Margaret Pleasant Douroux)

**SCRIPTURE**

Mark 5.24–34

Natalie Perkins

**SERMON**

“Are You Sure, Sweetheart,  
That You Want to Be Well?”

Natalie Perkins

• RESPONDING •

**INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

Doria Notarnicola

**OFFERTORY** "Expect a Miracle"

(Clark Sisters)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Angela Birchett, soloist

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

**DEDICATION PRAYER**

Ben Perry

**HYMN**

"Taking It to the Streets"

(Michael MacDonald)

Gospel Ensemble

You don't know me but I'm your neighbor  
I was raised here in this living hell  
You don't know my kind in your world  
Fairly soon the time will tell.

You, telling me the things you gonna do for me  
I ain't blind and I don't like what I think I see

Taking it to the streets  
Taking it to the streets  
Taking it to the streets  
Taking it to the streets

Take this message to my neighbor  
You will find them everywhere  
Wherever people live together  
Tied in poverty's despair

You, telling me the things you gonna do for me  
I ain't blind and I don't like what I think I see

Taking it to the streets  
Taking it to the streets  
Taking it to the streets  
Taking it to the streets

**BENEDICTION**

Jacqui Lewis

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

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## Sermon in Action

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### THIS WEEK: ARE YOU SURE, SWEETHEART, THAT YOU WANT TO BE WELL?

- How does grit and determination factor into God's call on your life?
  - Where do you see this enacted in the world—both good and bad?
  - How can a community use this toward societal shift?
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### LAST WEEK: TESTING, TESTING 123

- Jesus' testing in Luke's gospel depicts him as a model Jewish human being. What does it teach you about being human?
- As we consider how to "wade in the wilderness," during Lent, what does Jesus' response to testing teach us about both being still and building a movement?
- As the living body of Jesus, how does our partnership with God give us tools to heal the world?

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

**We are praying for all our Middle family every day.**

Peggy Kapsner; Christopher McCleod; Katy Lucid; 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 Ukraine 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/](http://middlechurch.org/prayer/).

The graphic is a vertical rectangular poster with a blue background. On the left side, there are two portrait photos of women. The top photo is of Abby Chava Stein, with a pink banner below it that reads "Becoming Eve Author Abby Chava Stein". The bottom photo is of Jacqui Lewis, with a pink banner below it that reads "Author and Public Theologian Jacqui Lewis". A large yellow ampersand "&" is positioned between the two photos. On the right side, there is a book cover for "Fierce Love" by Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis. The cover has a blue top section with the title "Rising to Gender Equality" in white. Below that, it says "A Bold Path to Ferocious Courage and Rule-Breaking Kindness That Can Heal the World". The main title "Fierce Love" is in large, stylized white letters on a red and purple background. Below the title, it says "Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis". To the right of the book cover is a grid of small portrait photos of various people. At the bottom of the graphic, there is a blue section with white text that reads "Wed. | March 16 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. ET" and a URL "bit.ly/freedom-rising". A yellow banner at the bottom of the book cover section says "Free Copy with Season Pass".

# Welcome to Middle Church

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**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](http://middlechurch.org).

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

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**VIDEOS AND PODCASTS** — Worship music and sermon videos: [youtube.com/MiddleNYC](https://youtube.com/MiddleNYC).  
Re-watch the Worship Celebration livestream: [facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch).  
Middle Church podcast: [middlechurch.org/podcasts](http://middlechurch.org/podcasts).

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## GIVING AT MIDDLE—

*Dear Middle Family* —

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 well beyond the half-way mark in our programming and fiscal year and, to date, we have received \$662,355.76.** 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](mailto: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](http://middlechurch.org/donate)
- Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch

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

- Visit [middlechurch.org/rising](http://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](http://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, MARCH 13

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

## MONDAY, MARCH 14

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)
- 9:00 p.m.: [Just Be](#)

## TUESDAY, MARCH 15

- 7:00 p.m.: [#bellhookstaughtme: a five-week celebration of her work](#)

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

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

## THURSDAY, MARCH 17

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

## SUNDAY, MARCH 20

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Hybrid Worship Celebration with West End Collegiate Church](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children](#)
- 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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[Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

[Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis](https://Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis)

[YouTube.com/MiddleNYC](https://YouTube.com/MiddleNYC)

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[Instagram.com/revjacquilewis](https://Instagram.com/revjacquilewis)

[Twitter.com/middlechurch](https://Twitter.com/middlechurch)

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