

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

MARCH 27, 2022 • 11:45 AM • WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

HYMN

"I Lift My Voice"

(Andrea Ramsey; arr. John Del Cueto)

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

When I lift my voice, let it be in song
A defiant note, in the face of wrong
I won't stand alone, we'll stand side by side
'Cause we know that love is always justified.

CHORUS

When they try to divide us, It will only unite us.
I lift my voice, I lift my voice

When I lift my voice, let it be for good
Let me care as much as I know I should
I won't stand alone, we'll stand side by side
'Cause we know that love is always justified.

CHORUS

When I lift my voice, let it heal all wounds
Let us lift each other to the sun and moon
I won't stand alone, we'll stand side by side
'Cause we know that love is always justified.

CHORUS

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

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Siyahamba”
Terenó Burroughs

Monique Fortuné

(Based on a South African Traditional Song)

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

MIDDLE RISING

Jacqui Lewis

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “Count on Me”

(K. Edmonds, W. Houston, M. Houston)

Elizabeth Stanley and Natalie Renee Perkins, duet

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

John Del Cueto

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Middle Family

ANTHEM

“Blackbird”

(Paul McCartney)

Nedra Neal, soloist • Tash Neal, guitarist

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15. 11–32

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

SERMON

“Do We Want to Be Found?”

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Dorie Hagler

OFFERTORY

“Rise Up”

(Andra Day and Jennifer Decilveo)

Madge Dietrich, soloist • Dionne McClain-Freeney, pianist

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch

DEDICATION PRAYER

John Del Cueto

HYMN

“Great Is the Lord”

(Jonathan McReynolds)

Gospel Ensemble • leads: Riqi Vélez, Kaede Helck, Ivan Anderson,
Tina Owens, Momoyo Arai, Gina Simone Pemberton, Samantha Waite

Great is the Lord, my conqueror
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, You're my comforter
You has never left me yet
In all my days I've never seen the righteous forsaken
You're the greatest One, He's God

Great is the Lord, You're my warrior
You has never lost one yet
The enemy comes like a flood but You raise the standard
You're the greatest One, He's God

Great is the Lord

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

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

JUST BE
A Meditation Series for the Racing Mind

middle church
JUST LOVE

Mondays, 9:00 p.m. ET
middlechurch.org/meditate

5 Minute Buddhist Reading; 25 Minutes of Sitting Together
Led by Rev. Benjamin Perry, Jeff Shugō Berman & Rachael Ward

Come Be As You Are

#bellhookstaughtme

Details: middle church
Tuesdays in March
7:00 p.m. ET

A 5-week celebration
of her work

RSVP: middlechurch.org/bell-hooks

Jacqui Lewis
Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft
Adrienne Wright
Ghillaine Reid Melbourne
Gloria Steinem
Katrina Monzón
Argenys Taveras
Melanie Hope
Rebecca Walker
Silas House

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: DO WE WANT TO BE FOUND?

- Why do we resist that which is good for us?
 - How might our “coming home to God” heal us in this season of Lent?
 - When have we been the caregiver welcoming, and when have we been the child leaving?
-

LAST WEEK: LISTEN UP!

- How will we be on this journey?
- What is this text asking us to hear?
- What is our individual calling and our corporate calling in this moment?

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 Darron and Marian Cunningham 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/.

**FIERCE LOVE
IN A HYBRID WORLD**

**SAT. & SUN.
APR. 23 + 24**

A TWO-DAY CONVENING

Day 1: How to Create Multi-Ethnic Hybrid Worship: From Ethics to Execution
Day 2: Building Beloved Community: Rescuing Democracy from the Brink

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS FEATURING:
REV. DR. JACQUI LEWIS & BREE NEWSOME BASS**

LEARN MORE: MIDDLECHURCH.ORG/HYBRID



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 —

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 \$704,391.87.** 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, MARCH 27

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Caregivers Roundtable](#)
- 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.: [Young Adults Small Group](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 28

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Queer Roundtable Discussion: Celebrating Womxn](#)

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

- 7:00 p.m.: [Young Adults Pop-Up Poetry: The Future of Black](#)

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

- 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.: [Digital Worship Celebration](#) — **NO in-person worship celebration**
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Middle Out Loud](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Middle Youth Walking Tour of the Lower East Side](#)
- 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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New York, NY 10003

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WEBSITE middlechurch.org

[Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://www.facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

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