

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

APRIL 3, 2022 • 11:45 AM • FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Great Is Your Faithfulness”

(Thomas O. Chisholm and William M. Runyon)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

Great is your faithfulness, O God Creator,
with you no shadow of turning we see.
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
all of your goodness forever will be.

REFRAIN

Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed your hand has provided,
Great is your faithfulness, God unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

REFRAIN

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

REFRAIN

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

• REFLECTING •

MIDDLE RISING

Ben Perry

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD'S PRAYER

Ben Perry

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

Riqi Vélez

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Middle Family

ANTHEM

“No Matter What I’m Gonna Keep on
Praisin’ the Lord”

(Raymond Wise)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43.16–21

Darrell Hamilton

SERMON

“Thus Says the Lord”

Darrell Hamilton

• RESPONDING •

COMMUNION

Ben Perry

Gather for yourself and your household something to eat and something to drink. It can be bread and wine; crackers and grape juice; pancakes and coffee; French toast and mimosas; a piece of fruit and water. Everyone can participate, from the youngest to the oldest.

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. You are welcome, just as you are, to participate in this special ritual of Grace and Love.

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Catherine Torpey

OFFERTORY

“God Is in Control”

(J. Hall)

Middle Community Chorus

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

DEDICATION PRAYER

Natalie Perkins



HYMN

“The Blessing”

(Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe Carnes, Steven Furtick)

Gospel Ensemble

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make their face shine upon you
And be gracious to you

The Lord turn their
Face towards you
And give you peace.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

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

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Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: THUS SAYS THE LORD

- What is God telling you in this wilderness journey?
 - When you look around your life, where, what, or who has God provided that has been a way in the wilderness or a river in the desert?
 - Through the prophet Isaiah God declares to be doing a new thing. Do you perceive it?
-

LAST 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?
-

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/.

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, 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](#)

MONDAY, APRIL 4

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

- 5:45 p.m.: [Reparations Task Force](#)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Ukuleliacs](#)

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

- 7:00 p.m.: [Middle Players Present: STEPS: A Dramedy Musical](#)

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

- 7:00 p.m.: [Middle Players Present: STEPS: A Dramedy Musical](#)

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [New Members Gathering](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Digital Worship Celebration: Palm Sunday—Jesus Christ Superstar](#) — **NO in-person worship celebration**
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children](#)
- 1:30 p.m.: [Usher and Volunteer Training at East End Temple](#)

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. Darrell Hamilton – *Executive Minister of Care and Operations*

Rev. Benjamin Perry – *Minister for Church Growth and Media Strategy*

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins – *Director of Digital Ministry*

Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – *Consulting Community Minister*

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New York, NY 10003

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WEBSITE middlechurch.org

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