

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

MAY 29, 2022 • 11:45 AM •

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

• GATHERING •

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“The Earth Is the Lord’s”

(Ramon and Sario Oliano; Gayom Ni Higami, trad. Ikalahan melody)

Lord, your hands have formed this world,
Ev’ry part is shaped by you—
Water tumbling over rocks, air and sunlight:
Each day’s signs that you make all things new.

Yours the soil that holds the seed,
You give warmth and moisture too.
Sprouting blossoms, crops and buds, trees and plants:
The season’s signs that you make all things new.

Like a mat you roll out land,
Space to build, for us and you
Earthly homes and, better still, homes for Christ:
The truest sign that you make all things new.

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

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

“Siyahamba”

Alesha Borbo Kilayko

(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

Natalie Perkins

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “GreenPt”

(Yumi Kurosawa)

Yumi Kurosawa, koto

LORD’S PRAYER

Natalie Perkins

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

ANTHEM

“One Love / Ue Wo Muite Aruko”

(Bob Marley; Rokosuke Ei & Hachidai Nakamura, arr. Kaede Helck)

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 22.1–5

Jocelyn Lieu

SERMON

“Apocalypse Now: Weaving the Leaves of Love”

Jocelyn Lieu

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Victoria Tucci and Josie McAdam

OFFERTORY

“Shika no Youni (As the Deer)”

Artists: Kaede Helck and Naoto Sawaki

(Martin J. Nystrom; Satoshi Yasuda, Japanese Translation)

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

DEDICATION PRAYER

Alesha Borbo Kilayko



HYMN

“O-so-so (Come now, O Prince of Peace)”

(Geonyong Lee, Korea; paraphrase, Marion Pope)

Come now, O Prince of Peace,
make us one body,
come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile your people.

Come now, O God of love,
make us one body,
come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile your people.

Come now and set us free,
O God our Savior,
come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile all nations.

Come now, Hope of unity,
make us one body,
come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile all nations.

BENEDICTION

Natalie Perkins

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

Rising Sun • Tina Owens, Jennifer Coleman, Sandra Santana, Joy Lau, Naoto Sawaki, Kaede Helck

Musicians • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs, piano; Hajime Yoshida, guitar.

The Earth Is the Lord's • Words: © 1991 Ramon and Sario Ollano; paraphrase by James Minchin; translation by Delebert Rice. Music: Gayam Ni Higami, a traditional Ikalahan melody; arrangement © 1991 Iona Community

O-so-so (Come now, O Prince of Peace) • Words and music © Geonyong Lee. Used by permission.

BUTTERFLY OUTREACH MINISTRY

Volunteers gather every Sunday at 2:00 PM ET after the worship celebration. Each volunteer will prepare and bring 5–10 completed bag lunches which each include: a sandwich, a piece of fruit, a granola bar, a juice box or water. Volunteers will be reimbursed for purchases through Middle Church's outreach funds. **Please email ptmulcahy21@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.**

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: APOCALYPSE NOW: WEAVING THE LEAVES OF LOVE

- How have you been wounded by white supremacy?
 - What personal story about race would write on your “leaf” to heal the nations?
 - What has been revealed to you as you’ve listened to this series of sermons on the Book of Revelation?
-

LAST WEEK: FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

John’s Revelation is often interpreted through the lens of judgement; I’ve been reading it with hope.

- Can you hear the hope-filled promise of a healed creation? A new heaven, new earth? Where does your imagination take you in terms of ecology—the care of our earthly home?
- There are echoes here of the Genesis and the creation stories—that the human ones were banished from Eden but will now see God’s face. Victor Hugo wrote, “To love another person is to see the face of God.” Can this heal us?
- The Tree of Life now has 12 kinds of fruits and leaves for the healing of the nations. All the nations. What does this indicate about God’s full intention for 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.

Mason Young and Ann Young; Gloria Cunningham Burgess Alicia Swain Janna Myers Sheila Robinson Sheila Harding Amanda Ashcraft Jacqui Lewis Valencia Armijio Vallory Leca Skip Reid Marc Aronson Michael Bos Pam Payne and family Devora Jones Connie Acquaah Darrell Hamilton Ben Perry Cori Margolin Catherine Vail Joe Tigner Jessi Matei Darron and Marian Cunningham Ukraine Louise Tatum 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/](https://www.middlechurch.org/prayer/).



PRIDE IS HERE!

To learn about all Middle’s Pride events, including our Queer Roundtable Discussion and a Bible study on the book of Daniel, visit <https://www.middlechurch.org/pride>

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 —

The votes have been cast and it has been decided that Middle WILL rebuild on our historic site! Glory be to God! You have been incredible stewards of your gifts with us to keep this movement of love and justice thriving during these last two years of pandemic and fire trauma. **To date, you have contributed \$853,128.60 toward our congregational goal of \$1,050,000 in contributions (that's 50% of our operating budget this year) to fund our ministry programming.** THANK YOU for your commitment to this movement! We do this together, to bring the KIN-dom of God to these streets and to cast our fierce love out into the world.

As we now move steadfastly into our season of resurrection, we will shift our resources into “One Fund” combined to achieve our operations and rebuilding needs for the years to come. In this moment, please continue to give in the generous way that you have been. **And if you missed the May 15th Congregational Meeting where we discussed our One Fund in greater detail and how to make your contributions most impactful, [you can watch it here](#).**

We're grateful for who you are as part of this community!

Love— *Jacqui, Darren Johnston—Consistory Chair, and the entire Middle Church Consistory*

To support our ongoing ministry, programs, operations, and rebuilding:

- Visit middlechurch.org/donate
- Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch

To mail contributions to Middle Church, please address them to:

- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.
PO Box 1400, New York, NY 10276

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”)

Please reach out to our Stewardship Director, Devon Mosley (stewardship@middlechurch.org) to discuss any questions about your giving plan.

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, MAY 29

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Group](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
— **ONLINE and IN-PERSON at East End Temple**
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Meal Outreach Ministry](#)

MONDAY, MAY 30

MEMORIAL DAY—STAFF HOLIDAY

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
 - 6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing Group](#)
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SUNDAY, JUNE 5

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Pentecost Worship Celebration](#)
— **ONLINE and IN-PERSON at East End Temple**
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Middle Out Loud](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Meal Outreach Ministry](#)

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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