

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 • 11:45 AM

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

“Morning Has Broken”

(Eleanor Farjeon, Trad. Gaelic melody)

John Del Cueto, leader

Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

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

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

“Siyahamba”

(Based on a South African Traditional Song)

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gloria Moy, Lisa Fenger, and Jozepi A. Morelli

LORD’S PRAYER

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

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

(Trad.)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“If I Can Help Somebody”

(Alma Androzzo)

Colin Marrero, soloist

SCRIPTURE

“Songs of Your Truth”

(Natalie Renee Perkins)

Odes of Solomon, Ode 14:1–10

Natalie Renee Perkins, soloist • Madge Dietrich, guitar

SERMON

“Teach Me the Songs of Your Truth”

Natalie Renee Perkins

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Jocelyn Lieu

OFFERTORY

“Together”

(K. Franklin, J. Smallbone, L. Smallbone, R. Jackson, J. Kerr,

R. Jackson; arr. J. Del Cueto/D. McClain-Freeney)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

Kristina Nicole Miller and Ivan Anderson, leads

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch

DEDICATION PRAYER

Monique Fortuné



HYMN

“We’ll Understand It Better By and By”

(Charles Albert Tindley)

John Del Cueto, leader

We are tossed and driven
on the restless sea of time;
somber skies and howling tempests
oft succeed a bright sunshine;
in that land of perfect day,
when the mists are rolled away,
we will understand it better by and by.

REFRAIN

By and by, when the morning comes,
when the saints of God are gathered home,
we’ll tell the story how we’ve overcome,
for we’ll understand it better by and by.

We are often destitute
of the things that life demands,
want of food and want of shelter,
thirsty hills and barren lands;
we are trusting in the Lord,
and according to God’s word,
we will understand it better by and by.

REFRAIN

Temptations, hidden snares
often take us unawares,
and our hearts are made to bleed
for a thoughtless word or deed;
and we wonder why the test
when we try to do our best,
but we’ll understand it better by and by.

REFRAIN

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

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

Middle Church Band • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs • Jeremy Price, piano.

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: TEACH ME THE SONGS OF YOUR TRUTH

Share your experience of the last 21 years since 9/11 with another person and how it has shaped you.

LAST WEEK: THE CROSS. THE COST. THE COMMUNITY.

What does Jesus mean when he says, "follow me" and how can we reimagine being beloved community?

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 Sheila Harding Amanda Ashcraft Jacqui Lewis Marc Aronson Pam Payne and family Devora Jones Connie Acquah Louise Tatum Bridget Kelso Anthony Mia McClain Ben Perry Elisi Taralli Natalie Perkins Renee Cunningham Marshall Robert Cunningham Reddick Cunningham Drexel Cunningham Brittany Davis Joe Tigner Jessie Matei Joy Rosenthal Dolly Linda Doria Sandra Catena Sandra Cunningham FWCC Ukraine New York Yankees 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/.

MIDDLE CHURCH HOMECOMING 2022

Sept 25 | 10:00 a.m. & 11:45 a.m. ET



Hybrid | East End Temple

Reclaim & Reframe

Repair & Rebuild

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 are called to the Rising—Middle Rising! As we kicked-off our new fiscal year on July 1st, we have launched our rebuilding campaign and shifted our giving goals with you, the congregation, to embrace our exciting future. Your donations to Middle now go to our “ONE FUND” to support Middle’s operations, staff, programming, and fundraising for our new building. This streamlined giving process helps Middle plan, grow, and rise from the ashes stronger to achieve our budget needs and help endow the future of this movement. In this moment, please continue to give in the generous way that you have been. The fire that destroyed Middle’s historic East Village site has not stopped us from putting our Fierce Love out in the world. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for and together, with you onboard, we will have enough!

We’re grateful for who you are as part of this community! **Please plan to join us as a congregation to hear more about your role in the next phase of the Middle Rising campaign on Sunday, October 2nd!**

Love—*Jacqui, Vickie Burns–Consistory Chair, and the entire Middle Church Consistory*

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

- Visit middlechurch.org/donate
- Venmo @[@MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://venmo.com/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, SEPTEMBER 11

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [September New Members Gathering](#)
- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men](#)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 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](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly 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. Natalie Renee Perkins – *Minister for Worship and Online Community*

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

Dr. Karen Blacks, D.Min. – *Minister for Operations and Executive Management*

Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – *Consulting Community Minister*

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