

middle church



JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

NOVEMBER 27, 2022 • 11:45 AM • FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HONORING INDIGENOUS HERITAGE MONTH

IT'S NAME TAG SUNDAY!

To share a virtual name tag with the Middle community, scan the code at right with your smartphone camera.



• GATHERING •

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Sawlani-Joyner Family

HYMN

“Wait for the Lord”

(Taize Community)

Wait for the Lord,
Whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord:
Be strong, take heart!

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Elise Tiralli

“Siyahamba”

(Based on a South African Traditional Song)

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

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “Be Grateful”

(Walter Hawkins)

Middle Community Chorus • Cassandra Kellam, soloist

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

(Trad.)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“Winter Song”

(Ingrid Michaelson, Sara Bareilles)

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2.1–5

Jacqui Lewis

SERMON

“Gonna Study War No More”

Jacqui Lewis

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Carol Geu

OFFERTORY

“What a Wonderful World”

(George David Weiss, Bob Thiele)

Ellington Tanner, soloist

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

DOXOLOGY

From all that dwell below the skies
Let faith and hope with love arise.
Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.

(Trad.)

DEDICATION PRAYER

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

HYMN

“Freedom Is Coming”

(Trad. South African)

Freedom is coming
Freedom is coming

Freedom is coming
Oh yes I know.

Oh yes I know
Oh yes I know
Oh yes I know
Oh Yes I know, oh yes I know

Jesus is coming
Jesus is coming
Jesus is coming Oh yes I know

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Gospel Ensemble • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs

Village Chorus for Children and Youth • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs •
Ellington Tanner, Dominick Vizioli, Carlo Vizioli, Cerentha Cook, Caelyn Osbern

Musician • Graeme Gengras, piano.

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: GONNA STUDY WAR NO MORE

On this first Sunday of Advent, as we turn from darkness toward the light, what does it mean to wage peace?

LAST WEEK: RE-MEMBERING TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

What if we treated coming out as non-binary, a spiritual act for all of us, all of us repenting of being stuck there and opening our hearts to our own complexity and the beautiful complexity of others?

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Krista Androsavich; Gloria Cunningham Burgess Alicia Swain Janna Myers Amanda Ashcraft Jacqui Lewis Ben Perry Elsie Taralli Natalie Perkins Marc Aronson Cori Margolin Catherine Vail Devora Jones Pam Payne and family Connie Acquaa Louise Tatum Brittany Davis Drexel Cunningham Robert Cunningham Reddick Cunningham Darron and Marian Cunningham Valencia Armijio Vallory Leca Renee Cunningham Marshall Michael Bos Sandra Catena Sandra Cunningham Joy Rosenthal Dolly Linda Doria Laura Donovan Bridget Kelso Anthony Mia McClain Joe Tigner Jessi Matei Ukraine Puerto Rico Kevin Conroy 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.

By entering the Sanctuary, you grant Middle Collegiate Church unrestricted right to use and publish, transmit, or telecast photographs or likenesses that might be taken of you this day for use in communications related to the church. You agree that all such material will be the sole property of Middle Collegiate Church. If you are uncomfortable, you are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary balcony.

GIVING AT MIDDLE—

Dear Middle Family —

We are called to the Rising—Middle Rising! We are in our rebuilding campaign and have 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. The fire that destroyed Middle’s historic East Village site has not stopped us from putting our Fierce Love out in the world.

Please visit www.middlechurch.org/rising to make your **Pledge** to our **Middle Rising** campaign (**which can be given over three years**) so that we can count on your support toward our ongoing operations, programming, and fundraising for our new building. 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.

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

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, NOVEMBER 27

- 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](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Young Adults](#)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Advent Bible Study](#)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
 - 6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing Group](#)
 - 7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 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](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Queer Connection](#)

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*

Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner – *Minister for Spiritual Development and Care*

Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – *Consulting Community Minister*

MAILING PO Box 1400, New York, NY 10276

WORSHIP Sundays at 11:45 AM online and in-person at:
245 East 17th Street, New York, NY 10003

TELEPHONE 212-477-0666

CARE LINE 212-477-0666 ext. 318

E-MAIL middleinfo@middlechurch.org

WEBSITE middlechurch.org

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