

# middle church

JUST LOVE

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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DECEMBER 4, 2022 • 11:45 AM • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
RESILIENCE SUNDAY

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Uwemedimo Family

HYMN

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

(Trad.; arr. John Del Cueto)

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

REFRAIN

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight

REFRAIN

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

• REFLECTING •

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD'S PRAYER**

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

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**

“Mary’s Song (Breath of Heaven)”

(Amy Grant and Chris Eaton)

Elizabeth Stanley, soloist • Adrienne Hurd, dancer

**SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 11.1–10

Jacqui Lewis

**SERMON**

“God Is Change”

Jacqui Lewis

• RESPONDING •

**COMMUNION**

Jacqui Lewis

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

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**

Jacqui Lewis

**OFFERTORY**

“My Soul Doth Magnify”

(O’landa Draper)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

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

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

**DEDICATION PRAYER** Delaney Piper

**HYMN** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" (Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller)

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be  
With God as our Parent  
Siblings all are we  
Let me walk with my family  
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment and live  
Each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me

**BENEDICTION** Jacqui Lewis

**POSTLUDE** "I'll Take You There" (Alvertis Isabell)

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**PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION**

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**Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir** • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs

**Middle Church Band** • Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano; Jonathon Peretz, drums; Booker King, bass.

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## Sermon in Action

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### THIS WEEK: GOD IS CHANGE

What God intends for the world is utter transformation. No more enmity, even in the animal kingdom. God's Spirit (Breath of Heaven) wants to use us, like she did Mary, in that transformation.

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### LAST WEEK: GONNA STUDY WAR NO MORE

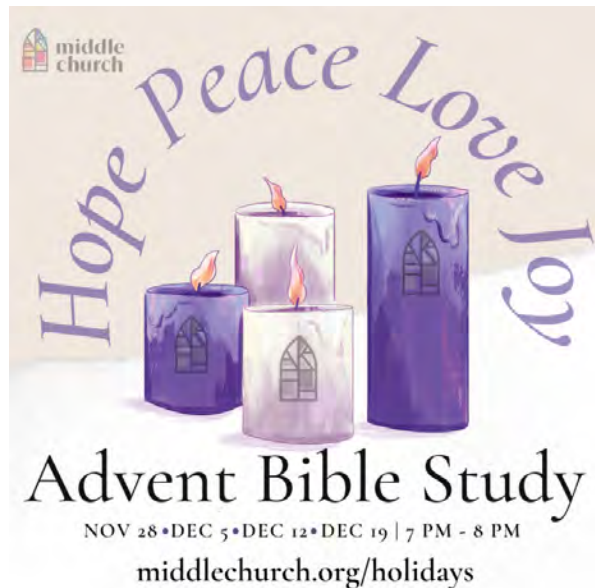
On this first Sunday of Advent, as we turn from darkness toward the light, what does it mean to wage peace?

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

**We are praying for all our Middle family every day.**

Jay Patel; Katrina Butler and Vince; Samuel H; 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 Acquaah 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 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/](http://middlechurch.org/prayer/).



middle church

Hope Peace Love Joy

Advent Bible Study

NOV 28 • DEC 5 • DEC 12 • DEC 19 | 7 PM - 8 PM

[middlechurch.org/holidays](http://middlechurch.org/holidays)



**Celebrate the Holidays  
with Middle Church**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Art by Middle Member Anastasia Magloire Williams

# Welcome to Middle Church

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**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](http://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.

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## 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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

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All events are listed in ET unless noted.

Visit [middlechurch.org](http://middlechurch.org) for details and the latest updates.

**Registration for all programming ends 1 hour before the event begins, so be sure to RSVP!**

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**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.

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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](#)

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

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

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 1:00 p.m.: [Queer Lunch Break](#)
- 5:45 p.m.: [Reparations Task Force](#)

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

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

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
  - 6:00 p.m.: [Young Adults](#)
  - 6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing Group](#)
  - 7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)
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## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Group](#)
- 10:30 a.m.: [New Member Gathering](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Middle Players Present “The Power of Gifts and the Nativity”](#)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about Middle Church events, activities, and the latest updates, scan the code below with your smartphone camera.



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## MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

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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

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WEBSITE [middlechurch.org](http://middlechurch.org)

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