

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

DECEMBER 25, 2022 • 11:45 AM • CHRISTMAS DAY

*Welcome to Fort Washington Collegiate Church
as they join us for this special holiday worship.*

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 •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jacqui Lewis & John Janka

HYMN

“Angels We Heard on High”

(Trad.)

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

REFRAIN

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?

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

What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

REFRAIN

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

REFRAIN

• 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “O Holy Night”

(Adolphe Adam)

Branch Woodman, 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

“A Child Is Born”

(Thad Jones, arr. Sharon Broadley)

SCRIPTURE

John 1

Jacqui Lewis

SERMON

“When the Word Moves In”

Jacqui Lewis

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Rod & Alli Colburn

OFFERTORY “O Bwana” (*Shout for Joy*)

(Swahili)

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

DEDICATION PRAYER

Danita Branam

HYMN

“Joy to the World!”

(Isaac Watts)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare God room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the Earth! the Savior reigns:
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

You rule the world with truth and grace, And
makes the nations prove
The glories of Your righteousness
And wonders of Your love,
And wonders of Your love,
And wonders, wonders of Your love.

BENEDICTION

Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Choir • Nedra Neal, Director • Liz Lang, Makea McDonald, Linda Childs, Joslyn King, Shari Gill, Branch Woodman, Nigel Sangster, Cliff Smith

Musician • Dionne McClain-Freeneey, piano

Sermon in Action

THIS WEEK: WHEN THE WORD MOVES IN

- When Love and Light move into the neighborhood, everything changes if we let it. Open your eyes and heart — and see.
-

LAST WEEK: MIDWIFING LOVE

- We are all called, Midwife love into the world.
It takes all of us, the whole of creation.

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

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Callie Jo Slattery and Leigh; 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 Acquah 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 FWCC 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:

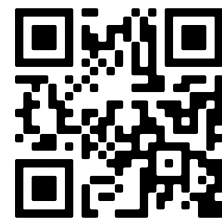
- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.
PO Box 1400, New York, NY 10276

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, DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS

- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [A Very Special Online Christmas](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 6:00 p.m.: [How to Handle the Holidays](#)

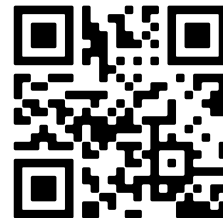
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

- 7:00 p.m.: [Virtual New Year's Eve Worship Celebration – Livestream ONLY](#)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 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

Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch

Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis

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