

# middle church

JUST LOVE

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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JANUARY 22, 2023 • 11:45 AM • LUNAR NEW YEAR

**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

**HYMN**

“Rise to Greet the Sun”

(Zhao Zichen, trans. Bliss Wiant)

Rise to greet the sun,  
Reddening in the sky,  
Warrior-like and strong,  
Comely as a groom;  
Birds pass high in flight,  
Fragrant flowers now bloom;  
With Thy gracious light,  
I my toil resume.

May this day be blest;  
Trusting Jesus' love,  
My heart's freed from ill,  
Fair blue sky's above.  
Glad for cotton coat,  
Plain food satisfies;  
All my countless needs,  
Thy kind hand supplies.

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

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Jocelyn Lieu

“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

Rising Sun

“Amazing Grace”

(John Newton, Tokiko Iwatani, arr. Kaede Helck)

Ailah Inaba, soloist

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

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

ANTHEM

“Fan Dance (A Fishing Boat Song at Dusk)”

(Traditional Chinese Folk Song)

Kashimi Asai, dancer

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:12-23

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

SERMON

“Darkness into Light”

Gloria Moy

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Sunghyun Bang

OFFERTORY

“Furusato (Tatsuyuki Okano, Teiichi Okano)”

(arr. John Del Cueto)

Donate at [middlechurch.org/donate](http://middlechurch.org/donate) or Venmo @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**

“Here I Am, Lord”

(Daniel L. Schutte)

I, the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save  
I who made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

REFRAIN: Wah tah shee wah  
Koh koh deh sue  
I have heard You calling in the night  
Wah tah shee wah,  
Ee key mah sue  
I will hold Your people in my heart

I, the Lord of wind and flame  
I will tend the poor and lame  
I will set a feast for them  
My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide  
'Til their hearts be satisfied  
I will give my life to them  
Whom shall I send? REFRAIN

**BENEDICTION**

Jacqui Lewis

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**PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION**

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**Rising Sun** • Kaede Helck, Natalie Maust, Tina Owens, Sandra Santana, Kendra Krueger, Ailah Inaba

**Middle Church Ensemble** • Sterling Cozza, pianist; Kashimi Asai, dancer

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## Sermon Focus: What's Next?

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### THIS WEEK: DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

- What can we do to be a better light for ourselves and others?
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### LAST WEEK: LOVE THIS WAY

- These two texts are what Jesus quotes as the greatest commandments. Love God with all we have and neighbor as self. Implications abound for our ethics in the public square.

**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 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 FWCC and The Raider Nation; Ruth Guerrero

**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/).

# 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, JANUARY 22

- 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.: [Young Adults](#)

## MONDAY, JANUARY 23

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Self-Care is Communal: AAPIDA Focus](#)

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

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

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
  - 6:00 p.m.: [Creative Writing](#)
  - 7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)
  - 9:00 p.m.: [Pacific, Hawaii, & Alaska Region MiCC Gathering](#)
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## SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

- 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](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Self-Care Day for Families](#)

**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 and Public Theologian*

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)

[Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

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