

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

MARCH 12, 2023 • 11:45 AM • WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

“What Shall I Render?”

(Margaret Douroux)

What shall I render
Unto God for all these blessings?
What shall I render?
What Shall I give?

All I can render
Is my body and soul.
That's all I can render
That's all I can give.

God has everything
Everything belongs to God
God has everything
Everything belongs to God.

What shall I render?
What shall I give?

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Edna Benitez

“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 “Out of the Depths I Cry” (Karin Simmons, arr. John Del Cueto)

Tina Cernero, soloist; Jennifer Vincent, cello; Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano

WOMANIST LORD’S PRAYER

(Rev. Yolanda Norton)

Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us, we call upon your names. Your wisdom come. Your will be done, in all the spaces in which you dwell. Give us each day sustenance and perseverance. Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the limits of others. Separate us from the temptation of empire, and deliver us into community. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us, and the celebration among us, now and forever. **Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

(Trad.)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“Be Like Water”

(PJ Morton)

Village Chorus for Children and Youth

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 2:1-10

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

SERMON

“Walk the Womanist Way”

Mira Sawlani-Joyner

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Anna Polovick-Waggy
& Christopher Waggy

OFFERTORY

“Golden”

Samantha Waite, Soloist

(Anthony Bell, James Robinson Jr.

Harold Lee Robinson, & Jill Scott)

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @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 Gloria Moy

HYMN "Singing In My Soul" (Thomas Dorsey)
Helena Cooks, Soloist

I'm so glad somehow
I've got salvation now
And it keeps the Spirit moving in my soul
Every day I find it's peace and joy of mind
And it keeps me singing in my soul (refrain)

I'm singing, yes I'm singing in my soul
When the troubles roll
I sing from morning til night
It makes my burden light
And I'm singing, singing in my soul.

Every now and then
There's something speaks within
And it often tells me when I'm doing wrong
I still kneel and bow my head in prayer
My heart rings out inside a song. (refrain)

BENEDICTION Mira Sawlani-Joyner

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • Village Chorus for Children and Youth: Ellington Tanner, Caelyn Osbern, Dominick Vizioli, Carlo Vizioli, Cerentha Cook, Miranda Oden Cook, Sabrina Cote, Imani Passley, Christian Unthank • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs

Middle Church Band • Jennifer Vincent, bass; Bernice Brooks, drums; Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano

Sermon Focus: What's Next?

THIS WEEK: WALK THE WOMANIST WAY

- The only way to survive this journey through the wilderness is to walk together. Listen out for who is walking in the wilderness too. How can we support one another in this journey towards God's promise for us?

LAST WEEK: A HANDMAID'S TALE

- This Handmaid's Tale bears eerie resemblance to post Roe America. The church needs to be prophetic in the way we respond to the (mis)use of women's bodies?

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 Sheila Robinson Sheila Harding Jessi Matei Joe Tigner Sandra Catena Sandra Cunningham Joy Rosenthal Dolly Linda Doria Laura Donovan Bridget Kelso Anthony Mia McClain 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:

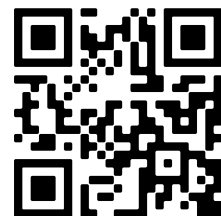
- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.
PO Box 1400, New York, NY 10276

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, MARCH 12

- 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.: [Congregational Meeting](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 13

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Lenten Study: Women & Femmes in the Bible](#)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Ukuleliacs](#)
- 8:00 p.m.: [Walking the Way of Harriet Tubman](#)

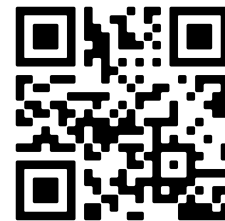
THURSDAY, MARCH 16

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

- 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](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [New Ushers Training](#)
- 3:00 p.m.: [Middle Mixer: Sarah Brook Art Installation at Prospect Park](#)

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 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

E-MAIL middleinfo@middlechurch.org

WEBSITE middlechurch.org

Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch

Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis

YouTube.com/MiddleNYC

Instagram.com/middlechurch

Instagram.com/revjacquilewis

Twitter.com/middlechurch

Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis

