

middle church



JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

MARCH 26, 2023 • 11:45 AM • WOMEN'S HISTORY 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 •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Natalie Renee Perkins

HYMN

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

(Elisha Hoffman, Anthony Showalter)

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms!
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms!

(Refrain)

Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms!
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms! (refrain)

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

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms!
I have peace complete with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms! (refrain)

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Jacqui Lewis

“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 “Psalm 23”

(Bobby McFerrin)

Kaede Helck, Ukulele

LORD’S PRAYER

Delaney Piper

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

Delaney Piper

ANTHEM “What the World Needs Now”

(Burt Bacharach/Hal David)

SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37:1-14

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

SERMON “Everyday Prophets”

Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Omolara, Idara & Tolani Uwemedimo

OFFERTORY “Warrior”

(Kim Baryluk)

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 Geraldine Smith

HYMN "We Are In This Together" BETTY

(Chorus)

We are in this together
Money's tight, everywhere
Overworked, I don't care
As long as we are in this together

Do your dreams fade in the night?
Keep believing it's alright, it's alright, it's alright
We are in this together
We are in this together

Danger whirls in the air
Overwhelmed, I don't care
As long as we are in this together

If change is worth the fight
Keep believing it's alright, it's alright, it's alright
Hold, hold, hold
Hold on through the dusk till dawn
Side by side by side by side
Carry on

Hearts can break without repair
Overcome, don't care
As long as we are in this together

BENEDICTION Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

BETTY: • Alyson Palmer (Vocals/guitar), Elizabeth Ziff (Vocals), Amy Ziff (Vocals)

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

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

Sermon Focus: What's Next?

THIS WEEK: EVERYDAY PROPHETS

- What keeps you from believing that you're called to proclaim the impossible?

LAST WEEK: IN TREMBLING BOLDNESS

- Where are you showing up in spite of your fear?

PRAYER CORNER *Please pray with us this week for these people and concerns.*
We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Pray for Gloria Cunningham Burgess Alicia Swain Janna Myers Amanda Ashcraft Jacqui Lewis Ben Perry Elise Tiralli 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 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/.

Join us for the season opener of Butterfly Outreach Mission!

We welcome you to join us on Sunday, April 2nd, at 2:00pm at Tompkins Square Park Corner at 9th Street and Ave B as we deliver homemade sandwiches and love letters to our neighbors who might appreciate a meal and friendly face. Please email Patrick at Ptmulcahy21@gmail.com or Deborah at Bergamotmusic@gmail.com for more info on what to bring and expect.

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](https://www.venmo.com/@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 26

- 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.: [Sermon Talkback: Women's Way of Knowing](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Ministry](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 27

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

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

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2

- 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.: [Creative Writing for Kids](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Queer Connections](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Ministry](#)

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:
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Instagram.com/revjacquilewis
Twitter.com/middlechurch
Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis

