

middle church

JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

APRIL 16, 2023 • 11:45 AM • VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

“Halleluiah”

(Natalie Renee Perkins/L. Thomson)

Look, the Lord God is our mirror
Open your eyes and see God in them.
Learn the manner of your faces
And announce to the Spirit praises.

Wipe the dirt from your faces
Love the Lord’s holiness and put it on.
Then you will not, at any time
Be blemished in front of God.

Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah
Sing praise.

• 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.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Dianne Galashaw

LORD’S PRAYER

Dianne Galashaw

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

Dianne Galashaw

ANTHEM

“Mighty River”

(Mary J. Blige)

Johnny Shea, Gabbi Beauvais & Sam Waite, Soloists

SCRIPTURE

Ode of Solomon 6:8-15

Natalie Renee Perkins

SERMON

“Sing a Song of Salvation”

Natalie Renee Perkins

• **RESPONDING** •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Julie Guerrero

OFFERTORY

“Draw the Circle Wide

(Mark Miller)

Marion Wise & Smith Daniels, Soloists

Donate at 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

Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

“The Blessing”

(Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe Carnes, Steven Curtick)

The Lord bless you

And keep you
May Their face shine upon you
And be gracious to you

The Lord turn Their
Face toward you
And give you peace.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Natalie Renee Perkins

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

Middle Church Band • Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano; Bernice Brooks, drums; Shari Gill (vocalist)

Small Ensemble: • Gabbi Beauvais; Johnny Shea; Tina Owens; Sam Waite; Natalie Maust

Sermon Focus: What's Next?

THIS WEEK: SIGN A SONG OF SALVATION

- The collective ensures that everyone has enough.

LAST WEEK: LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

- We have to shift our gaze to find the risen one. Not on the cross, not in the tomb, he lives where love is. The Resurrection life is learning how to see.

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 Victoria Dillard 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:

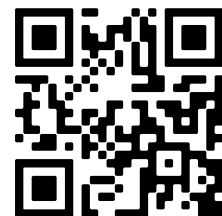
- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.
PO Box 1400, New York, NY 10276

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, APRIL 16

- 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](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Volunteer Appreciation Celebration](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Ministry](#)

MONDAY, APRIL 17

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)
- 8:00 p.m.: [Liberating Masculinity](#)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise East](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise West](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Ukuleliacs](#)

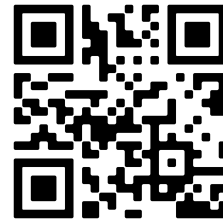
THURSDAY, MARCH 23

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:00 p.m.: [Second Avenue Street Fair](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children and Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Young Adults](#)
- 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:
245 East 17th Street, New York, NY 10003

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CARE LINE 212-477-0666 ext. 318

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