



Sunday Worship Celebration

APRIL 9, 2023 • 9:30 AM & 11:45 AM

EASTER

• GATHERING •

PRELUDE

“Mary Don't You Weep”

Shari Gill, soloist

(Trad.; arr. Dionne McClain-Freeney)

HYMN

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

(Charles Wesley)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner

“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 “Today”

(Kirk Franklin)

Alex Bertrand, soloist, Gabbi Beauvais, soloist

LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Ben Perry (9:30 AM)

Rev. Natalie Perkins (11:45 AM)

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ben Perry (9:30 AM)

Rev. Natalie Perkins (11:45 AM)

ANTHEM

“Stand Up (from Harriet)”

(Cynthia Erivo and Joshuah Campbell, arr. Mac Huff)

Helen White, soloist, Gospel Ensemble

SCRIPTURE

John 20:1-18 THE MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

SERMON

“Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places”

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Marte Aboagye (9:30 AM)

Fabienne Doucet Gibson (11:45 AM)

OFFERTORY

“Long as I Got King Jesus”

(James Cleveland)

Deborah Berg-McCarthy, soloist

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

Rev. Ben Perry (9:30 AM)

Rev. Natalie Perkins (11:45 AM)

HYMN

“Hallelujah from "Handel's Messiah: A Soulful Celebration”

(George F. Handel, Arr. by Mervyn Warren, Michael O. Jackson and Mark Kibble)

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

The kingdom of this world is become
The kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ
And of His Christ, and of His Christ

And He shall reign forever and ever

King of Kings, for ever and ever
And Lord of Lords, Hallelujah Hallelujah
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords
And He shall reign forever and ever
King of Kings forever and ever
And Lord of Lords Hallelujah Hallelujah

And He shall reign forever and ever
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords
And He shall reign for ever and ever

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Forever and ever
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah - Amen

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION • For all credits, visit [YouTube.com/MiddleChurch](https://www.youtube.com/MiddleChurch).

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir • John Del Cueto, Director of Music and Choirs

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

Sermon in Action

THIS 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.
-

LAST WEEK: PALMS AND CIRCUMSTANCE

- Love and justice clash with hatred and oppression. Every time. All the time. Palm Sunday is about those circumstances.
-

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 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 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.

VIDEOS AND PODCASTS — Worship music and sermon videos: youtube.com/MiddleNYC.

Re-watch the Worship Celebration livestream: facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch.

Middle Church podcast: middlechurch.org/podcasts.

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

to hear a weekly prayer, scripture, and reflection from a Middle pastor. Updated Mondays, 8:30 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

- 7:00 a.m.: [Worship Celebration: Easter Sunrise](#)
- 9:30 a.m.: [Worship Celebration: Easter Sunday](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:45 a.m.: [Children's Easter Egg Hunt](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration: Easter Sunday](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)

MONDAY, APRIL 10

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise East](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise West](#)
- 6:00 p.m.: [¡Hablamos! Otra Vez!](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [April New Members Meeting](#)
- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men](#)

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

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

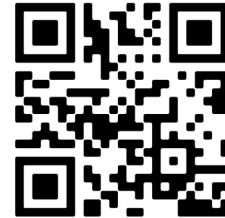
SATURDAY, APRIL 15

- 2:00 p.m.: [Advocacy Team Workshop](#)

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Project](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach 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

TELEPHONE 212-477-0666

CARE LINE 212-477-0666 EXT. 318

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Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch

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