

middle church



JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JUNE 25, 2023 • 11:45 AM • PRIDE SUNDAY

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

Rev. Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

“I'm Coming Out”

(Bernard Edwards/Nile Rodgers)

Refrain

I'm comin' out, I want the world to know
I've got to let it show.
I'm comin' out, I want the world to know
I've got to let it show.

There's a new me coming out,
And I just have to live,
And I just wann give
I'm completely positive.
I think this time around
I am gonna do it
Like you never knew it
Oh, I'll make it through.



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The time has come for me to
To break out of the shell.
I have to shout, that I am comin' out! (refrain)

I've got to show the world
All that I wanna be
And all my abilities.
There's so much more to me.
Somehow, I'll have to make them
Just understand, I got it well in hand.
And oh, how I've planned
I'm spreadin' love. There is no need for fear.
And I just feel so good, ev'ry time I hear.

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Katrina Monzon

“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

Carlos Piñero & Jeff Mummert

LORD’S PRAY

Carlos Piñero & Jeff Mummert

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

Carlos Piñero & Jeff Mummert

ANTHEM

“Love Theory”

(Kirk Franklin)

JJGC

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 10:26-33

Rev. Ben Perry

SERMONIC PRAYER "Hey Jesus" (Trey Pearson)
Trey Pearson, soloist

SERMON "What do we mean when we say, "God is Queer?"
Rev. Jacqui Lewis & Rev. Ben Perry

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Edna Benitez

OFFERTORY "Somewhere" (Leonard Bernstein/Stephen Sondheim)
JJGC

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 Sam Penix

HYMN "Brand New Day (From the Wiz)" (Luther Vandross)

Everybody look around
'Cause there's a reason to rejoice, you see
Everybody come out
And let's commence to singing joyfully

Everybody look up
And feel the hope that we've been waiting on
Everybody be glad
Because our silent fear and dread is gone

Freedom, you see
Has got our hearts singing so joyfully
Just look about
You owe it to yourself to check it out (refrain)

Refrain
Can't you feel a brand new day? – 4x's

Everybody be glad
'Cause the sun is shining just for us
Everybody wake up
Into the morning, into happiness

Hello world
It's like a different way of living now
And thank you world
We always knew that we'd be free somehow

In harmony
Let's show the world that we've got liberty
It's such a change
For us to live so independently
Freedom, you see
Has got our hearts singing so joyfully
Just look about
You owe it to yourself to check it out (refrain)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

Middle Church Band • Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano; Serena Ebony Miller; bass; Kobi Abcede, drummer

Sermon Focus: What's Next?

THIS WEEK: WHAT DO WE MEAN WHEN WE SAY, "GOD IS QUEER?"

- Our theology builds a world; what world do we want?
-

LAST WEEK: SEEN. HEARD. LOVED. CALLED.

- The God who sees us and hears our cries for help enlists us in the repairing of the world. Time to suit up and get in the game.

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 Sheila Robinson Sheila Harding Jessi Matei Joe Tigner NATO Ukraine Puerto Rico FWCC Victoria Dillard James Cunningham Gwen Kingsberry Dominique Atchison 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/.

Butterfly Outreach Mission invites YOU to volunteer on Sundays at 2:00pm!

We welcome you to join us 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.
50 East 7th Street, New York, NY 10003

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.



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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.

SUNDAY, JUN 25

- 10:00 a.m.: [Kids Sunday Enrichment](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Voter Reform Group](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Celebrating Community Group Leaders](#)
- 11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Young Adults](#)
- 3:45 p.m.: [March with Middle for Pride](#)

MONDAY, JUN 26

- 8:00 p.m.: [Liberating Masculinity](#)

TUESDAY, JUN 27

- 7:00 p.m.: [Feeling Queer: Holy Grief, Rage, Tenderness, & Joy](#)

WEDNESDAY, JUN 28

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise East](#)
- 10:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise West](#)
- 7:30 p.m.: [Queer Black Men](#)

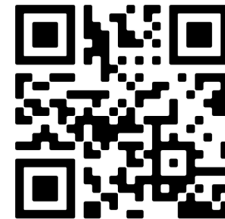
THURSDAY, JUN 29

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

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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. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – *Consulting Community Minister*

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