

middle church



JUST LOVE

Sunday Worship Celebration

JULY 30, 2023 • 11:45 AM

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Natalie Perkins

HYMN

“Hold On”

(AfAm Spiritual)

Oh, the one thing we did right
Was the day we started to fight
Keep your eyes on the prize.
Hold on!

Chorus:

Hold on, hold on
Keep your eyes on the prize.
Hold on!

Got my hands on the freedom plow
Wouldn't take nothing for my journey now
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

Chorus:

Only chains that we can stand
Are the chains of hand in hand.
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

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church**

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Chorus:

When united it is clear,
We don't have to live in fear
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

Chorus:

Building walls and spreading hate
Will not make this country great.
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

• REFLECTING •

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Julie Guerrero

“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

Nick Laparra

LORD'S PRAYER

Nick Laparra

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

Rev. Natalie Perkins

ANTHEM

“He's Got the Whole World”

(trad. Spiritual / arr - Margaret Bonds)

Tanisha Anderson, soloist

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 119:129-136

Rev. Natalie Perkins

SERMON

“Agreements with God”

Rev. Natalie Perkins

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Tina Owens

OFFERTORY “Spark of Creation” (Children of Eden)

(Stephen Schwartz)

Rebecca Grabarchuck, 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

Tina Owens

HYMN

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

(trad. Spiritual)

I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm troubled,
Lord, walk with me.
When I'm troubled,
Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Natalie Perkins



PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

Middle Church Band • Dionne McClain-Freeney, piano

Sermon Focus: What's Next?

THIS WEEK: AGREEMENTS WITH GOD

- What do you ask of God?
-

LAST WEEK: MUSIC GIVES US A FORETASTE OF HEAVEN, A CALLING TO BECOME PROTAGONISTS IN OUR OWN STORY

- How art and music gives us a foretaste of God's reign.

PRAYER CORNER *Please pray with us this week for these people and concerns.*

We are praying for all our Middle family every day.

Praying for those near to Frankie Wheeler's heart; A prayer for all those who Melvin holds in his heart and mind.

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.



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

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, JUL 30

- 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.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)

MONDAY, JUL 31

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

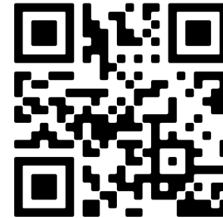
THURSDAY, AUG 3

- 1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)
- 6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing](#)

SUNDAY, AUG 6

- 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](#)
- 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.



Please reach out to our Director of Congregational Life, Elise Tiralli, with any questions regarding programming— etiralli@middlechurch.org.

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*

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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