



RECLAIM REPAIR REBUILD  
**WORSHIP**  
**CELEBRATION**  
REFRAME

REV. DR. JACQUI LEWIS - SENIOR MINISTER

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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JANUARY 28, 2024 • 11:45 AM

**PRELUDE**      *We invite you to use this time for prayer or silent meditation to center yourself and prepare for worship.*

• **GATHERING** •

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

**HYMN**

“Hush”

(trad. Spiritual)

**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

We are marching, we are marching  
We are marching in the light of God.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

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,

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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. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

*As you are able, please make your way to the microphone to also greet those worshipping with us online.*

• REFLECTING •

**ANTHEM**      “God Is”      (Robert J. Fryson, Richard Smallwood, J Del Cueto)  
Soloist – Carmi Harris

**SCRIPTURE**      Mark 1: 21-28      Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

**SERMON**      “Astonishing Liberation”      Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

• RESPONDING •

**INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT**      Alijah Kirksey

**OFFERTORY**      “I Will Sing Praises”      (Richard Smallwood)

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**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.

**DEDICATION PRAYER**      Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft

**HYMN**      [“Revive Us Again”](#)      (William P. Mackay, John J. Husband)

**BENEDICTION**      Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis



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## PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

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**Director of Music and Choirs** • John Del Cueto

**Middle Church Band** • Dionne McClain-Freeney (Piano), Jon Peretz (Drums), Booker King (Bass)

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## Sermon Focus: What's Next?

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### THIS WEEK: ASTONISHING LIBERATION

- There are unclean spirits today that threaten beloved community. Can we be amazed at a new way of being?
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### LAST WEEK: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE KIN-DOM KIND

- The Reign of God is close enough to see and touch; we must look for signs.

**December Playlist:** Did you miss anything at Middle last month? Check out our monthly recap for a selection of moving musical performances and a touching sermon. Watch it back again or share the playlist with a friend to let them see what December was like at Middle Church.



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

A prayer for all those who Melvin holds in his heart and mind. We will continue to pray for peace, closure, and comfort during this time of mourning and transition.

**To make a prayer request,** request a call from a Middle pastor, or inquire about financial assistance, visit [middlechurch.org/prayer/](http://middlechurch.org/prayer/).

**Butterfly Outreach Ministry, our food justice ministry, invites you to volunteer on Sundays at 2:00pm!** Please email Patrick at [Ptmulcahy21@gmail.com](mailto:Ptmulcahy21@gmail.com) or Deborah at [Bergamotmusic@gmail.com](mailto:Bergamotmusic@gmail.com) for more info on what to bring and expect.



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# Welcome to Middle Church

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**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](http://middlechurch.org).

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**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.

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## GIVING AT MIDDLE—

*Dear Middle Family —*

We are called to the Rising—Middle Rising! We are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of our rebuilding campaign that takes us through 2025. Your donations to Middle 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.

In Year One of our campaign, we saw incredible commitment to this project, and we need everyone who calls this their movement to help invest so that we can build it back to its glory for our future. **Please visit [www.middlechurch.org/rising](http://www.middlechurch.org/rising)** to make your Pledge to our Middle Rising campaign (which can be paid through 2025) so that we can plan around 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](http://middlechurch.org/donate)
- Venmo [@MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://venmo.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

**To mail contributions to Middle Church, please address them to:**

- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.  
18 W. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 02-147, New York, NY 10011

**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](mailto: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

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All events are listed in ET unless noted.

Visit [middlechurch.org](http://middlechurch.org) for details and the latest updates.

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## SUNDAY, JAN 28

- 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](#)
- 1:00 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- **3:00 p.m.: [Online Worship Celebration](#)**
- 4:00 p.m.: [Interfaith Family Dinner with Asylum Seekers from Children's Workshop School \(East End Temple 245 E 17th St, New York\)](#)
- 5:00 p.m.: [16th Annual Spiritual Sounds \(Town and Village Synagogue 334 E 14th St., New York\)](#)

## MONDAY, JAN 29

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

## WEDNESDAY, JAN 31

- 8:00 a.m.: [Pray to Rise](#)

## THURSDAY, FEB 1

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

## SUNDAY, FEB 4

- 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 & Youth](#)
- 2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- **3:00 p.m.: [Online Worship Celebration](#)**

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 Programs and Congregational Life, Elise Tiralli, with any questions regarding programming—[etiralli@middlechurch.org](mailto:etiralli@middlechurch.org).

Our ushers ministry isn't complete without you! We need in-person and digital ushers to help usher in Middle's radical welcome. Learning is easy for this mission-critical volunteer opportunity. For in-person ushering please email Elise at [etiralli@middlechurch.org](mailto:etiralli@middlechurch.org) to get plugged in; for digital ushering, please email Rev. Natalie at [nperkins@middlechurch.org](mailto:nperkins@middlechurch.org).



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## MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

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Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. – *Senior Minister and Public Theologian*

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins – *Minister for Digital Strategy and Engagement*

Rev. Benjamin Perry – *Consulting Minister, Public Theology*

Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft – *Consulting Community Minister*

**MAILING** Middle Collegiate Church  
18 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 02-147  
New York, NY 10011

**WORSHIP** Sundays at 11:45 AM online & in-person at:245  
East 17th Street, New York, NY 10003

**TELEPHONE** 212-477-0666

**CARE LINE** 212-477-0666 ext. 318

**E-MAIL** middleinfo@middlechurch.org

**WEBSITE** middlechurch.org

Share our message on social media and invite others to like, follow, and connect with us.

[Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

[Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis](https://Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis)

[YouTube.com/MiddleNYC](https://YouTube.com/MiddleNYC)

[Instagram.com/middlechurch](https://Instagram.com/middlechurch)

[Instagram.com/revjacquilewis](https://Instagram.com/revjacquilewis)

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## REVIVE US AGAIN

1. We praise Thee, O God, for Thy Spir - it of light, Who has  
 2. All glo - ry and praise to the God of all grace, Who has  
 3. Re - vive us a - gain— fill each heart with Thy love; May each

shown us our Sav - ior and scat - tered our night.  
 loved us and sought us and guid - ed our ways.  
 soul be re - kin - dled with fire from a - bove.

Hal - le - lu - jah, Thine the glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah, A -

men! Hal - le - lu - jah, Thine the glo - ry! Re - vive us a - gain.

Text: William P. Mackay, 1837-1885

Tune: REVIVE US AGAIN, 11 11 with refrain; John J. Husband, 1760-1825

**BACK**