



RECLAIM REPAIR REBUILD
WORSHIP
CELEBRATION
REFRAME

Sunday Worship Celebration

JANUARY 7, 2024 • 11:45 AM • HAPPY NEW YEAR • BAPTISM

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 ["Great Is Your Faithfulness"](#)

(Thomas O. Chisholm)

• **REFLECTING** •

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Natalie Perkins

LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Natalie Perkins

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.)

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Natalie Perkins

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

ANTHEM “Something New” (I. Anderson, D. McClain-Freeney)
Soloist – Ivan Anderson

SCRIPTURE Mark 1: 4-11 Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

SERMON “WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?)” Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

BAPTISM & COMMUNION Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis
Rev. Natalie Perkins
Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft
Baptism – Tiq Milan

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT Ivan Anderson

OFFERTORY “Wonderful” (I. Anderson, D. McClain-Freeney, F. Bowers, IV)
Soloist – Alexis Bertrand

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.

DEDICATION PRAYER Rev. Natalie Perkins

HYMN “[God of Love and Joy and Laughter](#)” (Jane Parker Huber)

BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis



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PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

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

Ivan Christopher & Greater Glory Vocal Ensemble • Alexis Bertrand, Eliza Bonet, Madge Dietrich, Robert Hughes, Ailah Inaba, Tina Owens, James Reynolds, Maurice Russell, Sandra Santana, Samantha Waite, Noël Wippler, Ivan Anderson

Sermon Focus: What's Next?

THIS WEEK: WWJD (WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?)

- Jesus's baptism is a human moment; how do we humanely follow Jesus in the way?
-

LAST WEEK: I AM LOVE AND LIGHT

- Do not ever forget that you are love and light wrapped in flesh. That is your primary identity!



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.

To make a prayer request, request a call from a Middle pastor, or inquire about financial assistance, visit 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 or Deborah at Bergamotmusic@gmail.com for more info on what to bring and expect.



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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 the 2nd 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** 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
- Venmo [@MiddleCollegiateChurch](https://venmo.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch)

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

- Middle Collegiate Church, Attn: Stewardship Dept.
18 W. 18th 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) 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.

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, JAN 7

- 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](#)

MONDAY, JAN 8

- 6:30 p.m.: [Acting Class](#)
- 7:00 p.m.: [Queer Connections](#)

WEDNESDAY, JAN 10

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

THURSDAY, JAN 11

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

SUNDAY, JAN 14

- 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](#)

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.



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 to get plugged in; for digital ushering, please email Rev. Natalie at nperkins@middlechurch.org.



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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 Middle Collegiate Church
18 West 18th 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

Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis

YouTube.com/MiddleNYC

Instagram.com/middlechurch

Instagram.com/revjacquilewis

Twitter.com/middlechurch

Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis



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Great Is Your Faithfulness

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.


1 Great is your faith-ful-ness, O God, Cre-a-tor,*
 2 Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest,
 3 Par-don for sin and a peace so en-dur-ing,

with you no shad-ow of turn-ing we see.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours-es a-bove,
 your own dear pres-ence to cheer and to guide.

You do not change, your com-pas-sions they fail not;
 Join with all na-ture in man-i-fold wit-ness
 Strength for to-day and bright hope for to-mor-row,

all of your good-ness for-ev-er will be.
 to your great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
 bless-ings all mine with ten thou-sand be-side.

Refrain

Refrain

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by
 morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed your
 hand has pro-vid-ed, Great is your faith-ful-ness, God, un-to me!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes that support the vocal line.

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, Music: William M. Runyan © 1923, renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725559. NCH423

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10, with refrain
 William M. Runyan, 1923

BACK



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God of Love and Joy and LaughterJane Parker Huber,
1985

1 God of love and joy and laugh-ter, Call-ing us to fruit-ful days,
2 When we join in cel-e-bra-tion, Grate-ful for a-bun-dant gifts,
3 Now we ask your ben-e-dic-tion— Bless-ing, chal-lenge, all in one.

May we be the ech-oes af-ter Church and peo-ple sing your praise.
Send a-gain that rev-e-la-tion Of your grace that heals all rifts.
Calm our stress, but use its fric-tion That, through us, your will be done.

Your love calls our love to be-ing, Grows, sur-rounds, up-builds, and holds,
Grant us love that's deep-er, strong-er, As the days turn in-to years,
Keep our hope as fresh as morn-ing. Keep our zeal warm as the sun.

Clears our eyes for keen-ly see-ing All the world your love en-folds.
Wis-dom full-er, pa-tience long-er, Faith and hope through joy and tears.
Keep our joy, as spring a-born-ing Cheers the hearts of ev-ery-one.

Words: Jane Parker Huber, © 1986; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, Arr. by Edward Hodges.
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HYMN TO JOY Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
Arr. by Edward Hodges (1706-1867)

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