



RECLAIM REPAIR REBUILD  
**WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
REFRAME

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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APRIL 13, 2025 • 3:00 PM • PALM SUNDAY

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

• **GATHERING** •

**INTROIT**      ["Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory"](#)      (A. Jeffrey LaValley)  
Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**      Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

**HYMN**      ["Welcome"](#)      (Tituss Burgess)

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES**      Jillian Langford, MTS

"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**

Caelyn Osbern

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Danita Branam

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**

Danita Branam

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

**• REFLECTING •**

**ANTHEM**

“What’s The Buzz”

(Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber)

JJGC and VCCY  
Jesus (Justin Senense)  
Mary (Gina Simone Pemberton)

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 19:28-40

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

<sup>28</sup> When He had said this, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.  
<sup>29</sup> And it came to pass, when He drew near to <sup>1a</sup>Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, *that* He sent two of His disciples, <sup>30</sup> saying, “Go into the village opposite *you*, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring *it here*. <sup>31</sup> And if anyone asks you, ‘Why are you loosing *it*?’ thus you shall say to him, ‘Because the Lord has need of it.’ ” <sup>32</sup> So those who were sent went their way and found *it* just as He had said to them. <sup>33</sup> But as they were loosing the colt, the owners of it said to them, “Why are you loosing the colt?” <sup>34</sup> And they said, “The Lord has need of him.” <sup>35</sup> Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. <sup>36</sup> And as He went, *many* spread their clothes on the road. <sup>37</sup> Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, <sup>38</sup> saying: “ ‘Blessed *is* the King who comes in the name of the LORD!’ Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup> And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, “Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.” <sup>40</sup> But He answered and said to them, “I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.”

**SERMON**

Palms & Circumstances

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis



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• RESPONDING •

**INVITATION TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

Lyn Pentecost

*If you'd like to join our movement for love and justice, go to [middlechurch.org/join](http://middlechurch.org/join).*

**OFFERTORY** "Love Lifted Me"

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir  
Tanisha Anderson – Lead

(Hezekiah Walker)

Donate at [middlechurch.org/donate](http://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.

(Trad.)

**DEDICATION PRAYER**

Macky Alston

**HYMN**

"Hosanna"

Congregation  
(Caiaphas) Alvin Crawford  
(Jesus) Justin Senense

(Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber)

**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-Freeneay (piano), Booker King (bass), Jonathon Peretz (drums)



**March 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 them again or share the playlist with friends.

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

**We are praying for all our Middle family every day.**

Prayers for Matthew Giannone and family through their cancer journey; for all those Melvin holds in his heart; for the health and healing of Sierra Goodale.

**To make a prayer request**, speak to a minister, or inquire about financial assistance, visit [middlechurch.org/prayer/](http://middlechurch.org/prayer/).



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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).

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

**Sunday Worship and programs** happen thanks to our clergy, staff, musicians, volunteers, and all of you who participate in-person and online. We can't do it without you.

**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 carpeted area. If hearing is an issue, the best place to sit in the sanctuary is front left.

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## GIVING AT MIDDLE—

*Dear Middle Family —*

We are called to the Rising—Middle Rising! We are now in the 3RD and FINAL YEAR of PHASE 1 of our rebuilding campaign that takes us through 2025!

Your pledges, recurring contributions and one-time donations to Middle land in 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. We are in construction on our 50 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street building as Phase 1 and aim to have us back in that building in early 2025. We still 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—Board Chair, and the entire Middle Church Board*

**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.  
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](mailto:stewardship@middlechurch.org)) to discuss any questions about your giving plan.**

### DONATE BY PHONE

To make a donation to Middle Church, scan this code 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, APRIL 13

10:30 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)

11:45 a.m.: [Online Only Worship Celebration | April 6th | 11:45 am](#)

12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)

3:00 p.m.: [Hybrid Worship Celebration](#)

4:00 p.m.: [Community Social Hour](#)

## MONDAY, APRIL 14

6:30 P.M.: [Lenten Small Groups with Rev. Dr. Jacqui and Jillian](#)

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

## TUESDAY, APRIL 15

8:00 a.m.: [Young Adult Group](#)

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

7:00 p.m.: [New Membership Gathering](#)

7:30p.m.: [Queer Black Men](#)

## THURSDAY, APRIL 17

1:00 p.m.: [New Adventures](#)

6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing](#)

7:00 p.m.: [Maundy Thursday | Dance is Holy](#)

## FRIDAY, APRIL 18

12:00 p.m.: [Good Friday](#)

## Saturday, April 19

10:00 a.m.: [Holy Saturday](#)

## SUNDAY, APRIL 20

11:45 a.m.: [Easter Morning Worship Celebration | 11:45a](#)

2:00 p.m.: [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)

3:00 p.m.: [Easter Afternoon Worship Celebration | 3:00pm](#)

4:00 p.m.: [Community Social Hour - Middle Church](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Middle Church events, activities, and the latest updates, scan this code with your smartphone camera.



### Want to get more involved?

Please reach out to our Director of Programs, Events, and

Community Engagement, Elise

Tiralli, to learn more about

programming – [etiralli@middlechurch.org](mailto:etiralli@middlechurch.org).

### We warmly invite you to join our ushering and

hospitality ministries! Every Sunday, we need ushers to

offer radical welcome and volunteers to host our

Community Social Hour after worship. If you're

interested in serving as an usher or sponsoring snacks

for the community, please reach out to our Care

Minister, Jillian Langford –

[jangford@middlechurch.org](mailto:jangford@middlechurch.org).



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## MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Senior Minister

Macky Alston, M.Div. Executive Minister

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins, Executive Minister for Digital Church

Jillian Langford, MTS ABD, Minister for Care & Congregational Life

Rev. Amanda Hambrick Ashcraft, Consulting Minister for Justice & Community Organizing

And Team Middle

**MAILING** Middle Collegiate Church  
PO Box 1400  
New York NY 10276

**WORSHIP** Sundays at 11:45 AM online & 3:00 PM  
online & in-person at: Judson Memorial  
Church, 55 Washington Square South, New  
York, NY 10012

**E-MAIL** [middleinfo@middlechurch.org](mailto:middleinfo@middlechurch.org)

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

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

[Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis](https://Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis)

[Jacquilewis.substack.com/](https://Jacquilewis.substack.com/)

[Middlechurch.substack.com/](https://Middlechurch.substack.com/)



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## Welcome

(Tituss Burgess)

You're welcome in this house  
Rest inside this house  
We all are flawed, no judgments made.  
That's the beauty of this place

You're welcome if you're gay  
You're welcome if you're straight  
Bi, transgender, or confused –  
this invitation's for you too.

You're welcome in this house  
Come inside this house.  
Thieves and liars, those ashamed  
'cause their body's how their living's made

Oh, it's safe here  
Minds can renew here  
Come in and you'll find out.

No one is turned away  
This rule we cannot break  
And just in case you're wondering –  
We're more alike than it may seem

Oh, it's safe here  
Minds can renew here  
Come in and you'll find out.

You are welcome – come as you are, rest here, there is room for all

Oh, it's safe here  
Minds can renew here  
Come in and you'll find out.

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**HYMN**

["Hosanna"](#)

(Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber)

Hosanna, heysanna, sanna sanna  
Hosanna, heysanna hosanna.  
Hey. JC, JC, won't you smile at me?  
Sanna, hosanna hey, superstar.

Hosanna, heysanna, sanna sanna  
Hosanna, heysanna hosanna.  
Hey. JC, JC you're alright by me  
Sanna, hosanna hey, superstar.

Hosanna, heysanna, sanna sanna  
Hosanna, heysanna hosanna.  
Hey JC, JC, won't you fight for me?  
Sanna, hosanna hey, superstar.

Hosanna, heysanna, sanna sanna  
Hosanna, heysanna hosanna.  
Hey JC, JC, won't you die for me?  
Sanna, hosanna hey, superstar.

**BACK**



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