



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

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## Sunday Worship Celebration

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SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 • 11:45 AM • HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

• GATHERING •

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

**HYMN**

["Cantad al Señor"](#)

(Braz Folk Song)

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES**

Carlos Piñero

**SIYAHAMBA**

We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching in the light of God  
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios  
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios

Marcharemos, Marcharemos  
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios  
Marcharemos, Marcharemos  
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios

**PRAYER'S OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

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## CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

(Trad.)

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

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

## • REFLECTING •

### ANTHEM

“Mi Tierra Del Olvido”

Jazmin Duran Garcia

(Carlos Vives, Iván Benavides)

### SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

<sup>18</sup> My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick. <sup>19</sup> Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land: “Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?” (“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?”) <sup>20</sup> “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.” <sup>21</sup> For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken, I mourn, and horror has seized me. <sup>22</sup> Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored? **9** O that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

### SERMON

We Are A Balm in Gilead

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

## • RESPONDING •

### INVITATION TO REFLECT

### INVITATION TO JOIN MOVEMENT

John Del Cueto

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

### OFFERTORY

“Vivir Mi Vida”

(Sam Debbie, Bjoern Djupstroem,  
Bilal Hajji, Achraf Jannusi,  
Nadir Khayat, Alexander Papaconstantinou)

*Donate at [middlechurch.org/donate](https://middlechurch.org/donate) or Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch*



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**DOXOLOGY** Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

(Samba Version)

**DEDICATION PRAYER**

John Del Cueto

**HYMN** ["El Cielo Canta Alegria"](#)

(Pablo Sosa)

**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** • Booker King (Bass), Jonathon Peretz (Drums),  
Dionne McClain-Freeney (Piano), Hajime Yoshida (Guitar)  
Chris Rodriguez (Tambor Alegre), Alfredo Colon (Saxophone)

**August 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 Horace Hambrick & Family*

*Prayers for Helen Connell*

*Prayers for Tamryn Nelson*

**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're here today!** If you are visiting for the first time, please fill out the card you were given with the bulletin and drop it in the offering bag when it comes by. We hope you'll come back often to be with us!

To learn more about the history of this church— we call it a movement — or to learn about New Members classes, or to get involved with our community groups, visit us at [www.middlechurch.org](http://www.middlechurch.org).

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.

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## GIVING AT MIDDLE

Back by Popular Demand! Our brick campaign is here again and you can still leave a lasting mark on Middle Church's future in the very foundation of our renewed home.

Bricks are a powerful way to honor loved ones, celebrate milestones, and show your commitment to love, justice, and joy. Each engraved brick will be placed on our Rising Wall or Freedom Wall, symbols of our collective story and our bold vision for the future.

Your gift not only secures your place in Middle's history, it fuels the fierce love that flows through our worship, justice work, art, and care for one another.

Give a brick today: <https://secure.everyaction.com/kUHfiP3LYUaN5yxP5lgLKw2>

Middle has always been more than a building—it's the love, justice, music, art, and community that flow within and beyond our sacred space. To keep that spirit thriving, we need your continued support for all the vital things that make Middle, Middle: our staff, programs, worship, justice work, and care for one another.

Your giving today fuels this ministry of fierce love. Together, we are not just restoring a church, we are building the movement for justice and joy our world so deeply needs.

Please give at [middlechurch.org/donate/](http://middlechurch.org/donate/).

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! Please visit [www.middlechurch.org/donate](http://www.middlechurch.org/donate) to make your gifts to support our ongoing operations and programming of this new building. We are the ones we've been waiting for and together, with you onboard, we will have enough!

Love— *Jacqui, Vickie Burns—Board Chair, and the entire Middle Church Board*



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**To support our ongoing ministry, programs, operations, and rebuilding:**

- Visit [middlechurch.org/donate](http://middlechurch.org/donate)
- Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch
- To mail contributions to Middle Church, please address them to:

Middle Collegiate Church  
Attn: Stewardship Dept.  
50 E. 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 Office ([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.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

10:00 a.m.: [Bible in The Middle](#)  
10:00 a.m.: [New Members Gathering](#)  
11:45 a.m.: [Worship Celebration](#)  
12:45 p.m.: [Virtual Chat & Chew](#)  
1:00 p.m.: [Art Show: Middle's Journey](#)

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

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

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

7:00 p.m.: [On Tyranny: Book Read & Discussion](#)

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

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

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

12:45 p.m.: [Fever Pitch Pilgrimage](#)  
6:30 p.m.: [Creative Writing](#)  
7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

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.: [Celebration of Life: Michael Dinwiddie](#)

**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** – [jlangford@middlechurch.org](mailto:jlangford@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  
50 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York NY 10003

**WORSHIP** Sundays at 11:45 AM ET online & in-person at: Middle Collegiate Church  
50 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY  
10003

**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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## HYMN

### ["Cantad al Señor"](#)

(Braz Folk Song)

CANTAD AL SEÑOR, UN CANTICO NUEVO  
CANTAD AL SEÑOR, UN CANTICO NUEVO  
CANTAD AL SEÑOR, UN CANTICO NUEVO  
CANTAD AL SEÑOR, CANTAD AL SEÑOR

CANTAD AL SEÑOR, "¡AMÉN, ALELUYA!"  
CANTAD AL SEÑOR, "¡AMÉN, ALELUYA!"  
CANTAD AL SEÑOR, "¡AMÉN, ALELUYA!"  
CANTAD AL SEÑOR, CANTAD AL SEÑOR.

OH, SING TO THE LORD, OH SING GOD A NEW SONG,  
OH, SING TO THE LORD, OH, SING GOD A NEW SONG,  
OH, SING TO THE LORD, OH, SING GOD A NEW SONG.  
OH, SING TO OUR GOD, OH SING TO OUR GOD.

[\*\*BACK\*\*](#)



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**HYMN**

**[“El Cielo Canta Alegra”](#)**

(Pablo Sosa)

El cielo canta alegría, aleluya  
Porque en tu vida y la mía brilla la gloria de Dios  
Aleluya, aleluya  
Aleluya, aleluya

Heaven is singing for joy, hallelujah  
For in your life and mine  
Is shining the glory of God.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah  
Hallelujah, hallelujah

**BACK**



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