

JUST LOVE LIBERATES



middle church
WORSHIP CELEBRATION

JANUARY 11, 2026 • 11:45 AM

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

HYMN

["Come O Fount of Every Blessing"](#)

(Robert Robinson)

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Macky Alston

SIYAHAMBA

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

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.**

CHORAL AMEN

(Trad.)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

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

• REFLECTING •

ANTHEM

["People Get Ready"](#)

(Curtis Mayfield)

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:1-9

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;

³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will
faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and
the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who
spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon
it and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and
kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷ to
open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the
prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸ I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before
they spring forth, I tell you of them.

SERMON

Called by Righteousness

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis



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• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO REFLECT

POWER THIS MOVEMENT

Isaac Bush

If you'd like to join our movement for love and justice, go to middlechurch.org/join.

OFFERTORY "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

(Trad.)

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo @MiddleCollegiateChurch

DOXOLOGY

(Trad.)

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

Isaac Bush

HYMN ["Here I Am, Lord"](#)

(Dan Schutte adapt. by Carlton R. Young)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

Middle Church Band • Dionne McClain-Freeney (Piano)

January 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.



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

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

We celebrate surprising good news in the lives of Michael Mitchell's grand-nephew, Mitchy, and our beloved Allan Marrero.

We grieve the loss of Geraldine Smith and Bret Shuford, and pray for their families and friends - for Terrence Brown, Stephen Hanna, and Maverick.

We pray for the health of Sandra Santana's friend Jeremy and his family;

For all who suffer both physically and mentally;

For all in and from Venezuela, Minneapolis and all places harmed by our current administration;

For all who ICE has deported, detained and hurt;

For Renee Nicole Good and all who love her and grieve her loss.

To make a prayer request, speak to a minister, or inquire about financial assistance, visit middlechurch.org/prayer/.

Welcome to Middle Church

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.

By entering the Sanctuary, you grant Middle 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 Church.

GIVING AT MIDDLE

As of January 1, 2026, all contributions made to Middle Church, reserved and restricted for the sole and exclusive use by Middle Church, are, for federal income tax purposes, treated as contributions made to Congregational Collegiate Collective, Inc. and are deductible to the full extent permitted by law.



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Our new legal name is Middle Ministry, LLC, but we are authorized to do business and be known as Middle Church. All donations should be written to Middle Church. The parent entity is named: Congregational Collegiate Collective, Inc. EIN# 90-0458930 and is a nonprofit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

You will see references to our new parent entity's name and EIN on our website, within 2026 donation acknowledgement communications and donor directories such as Candid and GuideStar.

HERE ARE ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT MIDDLE CHURCH

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/.

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 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*

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

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

Middle Church
Attn: Stewardship Dept.
50 E. 7th Street, New York, NY 10003

**Charitable Giving may require the search via Congregational Collegiate Collective, Inc EIN: 90 - 0458930 in order to designate it to Middle Church.

DONATE BY PHONE

To make a donation to Middle Church, scan this code with your smartphone camera.



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Please reach out to our Stewardship Office (stewardship@middlechurch.org) for instructions regarding giving securities or to discuss any questions about your giving plan.



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Middle Events Calendar

All events are listed in ET unless noted.

Visit middlechurch.org for details and the latest updates.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

10:00 a.m.: [Just Love Family Programming](#)

10:00 a.m.: [Bible in the Middle](#)

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

12:00 p.m.: [Just Love Kids](#)

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

1:00 p.m.: [Community Social Hour](#)

1:00 p.m.: [LGBTQIA2S+ Welcome Home](#)

1:15 p.m.: [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

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

5:00 p.m.: [Deportation Defense Training](#)

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

7:00 p.m.: [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)

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



Want to get more involved? To learn more about programs, regular volunteer opportunities, and community groups, please reach out to our Director, Events and Community Center, **Elise Tiralli** - etiralli@middlechurch.org.

Want to host your next event at Middle? Visit middlechurch.org/rentals to find our rates and inquiry form here:



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MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Senior Minister, Public Theology and Partnerships
Macky Alston, M.Div. Executive Minister, Operations and Development
Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins, Executive Minister, Hybrid Church
Rev. Amanda Hambrick: Community Minister, Justice & Community Organizing
Making it Happen: Middle Church Staff, and YOU!

MAILING	Middle Church 50 E 7 th Street New York NY 10003	Share our message on social media and invite others to like, follow, and connect with us.
WORSHIP	Sundays at 11:45 AM ET online & in- person at: Middle Church 50 East 7 th Street New York, NY 10003	Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis YouTube.com/MiddleNYC Instagram.com/middlechurch Instagram.com/revjacquilewis Twitter.com/middlechurch Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis Jacquilewis.substack.com/ Middlechurch.substack.com/
E-MAIL	middleinfo@middlechurch.org	
WEBSITE	middlechurch.org	
PHONE	(212) 477-0667	



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HYMN

“Come O Fount of Every Blessing”

(Robert Robinson)

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Robert Robinson, 1758; alt.

1 Come, O Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
 2 Here I pause in my so - journing, giv-ing thanks for hav - ing come,
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!

streams of mer - cy, nev-er ceas - ing, call for songs of end-less praise.
 come to trust, at ev-ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe-ly home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to you.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,
 Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:

Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail-ing love.
 Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless-ed bod - y, pre-cious love.
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

Tune: NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.

John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

The New Century Hymnal Copyright © 1995 The Pilgrim Press



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ANTHEM

“People Get Ready”

(Curtis Mayfield)

People get ready
There's a train a comin'
You don't need no baggage
You just get on board
All you need is faith
To hear the diesels hummin'
You don't need no ticket
You just thank the Lord

So people get ready
There'a a train to Jordan
Picking up passengers
Coast to coast
Faith is the key
Open the doors and board them
There's hope for all
Among those loved the most

There ain't no room
For the hopeless sinner
Who would hurt any person
Just to save his own
Have pity on those whose
Chances grow thinner
There's no hiding place
Against the Kindom's throne



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

“Here I Am, Lord”
Here I Am, Lord

(Dan Schutte adapt. by Carlton R. Young)

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8)

MUSIC: Dan Schutte, 1981; adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a-lone.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

1.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
Who will bear my light to them?
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will speak my word to them.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
I will give my life to them.

2. *Refrain*
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord.
Whom shall I send?

Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

