

JUST LOVE LIBERATES

middle church
WORSHIP CELEBRATION

JUNE 7, 2026 • 11:45 AM • PRIDE MONTH

• GATHERING •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

HYMN

Opening Pride Medley

(Various)

Opening Pride Medley

Love Will Save the Day (Toni C, Lotti Golden)

Everybody Everybody (Daniele Davoli, Mirko Limoni, Valerio Semplici, Martha Wash)

Shining Star (Maurice White, Larry Dunn, Philip Bailey)

Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin) (Sly Stone)

Love Will Save the Day

When you're feeling down and out
And you've got troubles on your mind
Love will save the day
When you're feeling full of doubt
And fear has got you in a bind
Love will save the day
When your worlds falling apart
All you have to do is say a prayer
And love will save the day
There's an answer in your heart
So let your light shine on my dear
And love will save the day
Love will save the day
Love will save the day
Love will save the day
Love will save the day

Everybody Everybody

Oh, everybody
(Everybody, everybody, everybody, everybody) Oh, everybody
(Everybody, everybody, everybody, everybody) Everybody, oh everybody
(Everybody, everybody, everybody, everybody) Everybody

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

Shining Star

Shining star come into view
To shine its watchful light on you
Give you strength to carry on, yeah
Yeah, make your body big and strong, yeah
Born a child of the sun, yeah
Yeah, saw my work had just begun
Yeah, found I had to stand alone, yeah
Bless it now
I've got my own
Oh yeah, oh yeah

You're a shining star
No matter who you are
Shining bright to see
What you could truly be

Thank you for letting me be myself

I want to thank you for lettin' me be myself again
Thank you for lettin' me be myself again

[Outro]

Shining star for you to see
What your life can truly be

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, 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. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

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

• REFLECTING •

ANTHEM

Psalm 23

(I. Anderson, Jr. & D. McClain-Freene)

Small Ensemble



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

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and assert, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹He gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,
³¹but those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

SERMONIC SELECTION

Wild Heart

(Madge Dietrich)

Madge Dietrich, Ensemble

SERMON

Wait ON the Lord

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

• RESPONDING •

INVITATION TO REFLECT

COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis
Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins
Rev. Amanda Hambrick
Rev. Macky Alston

POWER THIS MOVEMENT

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

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

OFFERTORY

We Remember

(I. Anderson, Jr. & D. McClain-Freeney)
Ivan Anderson, Ensemble

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo [@MiddleChurch](https://venmo.com/MiddleChurch)

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

Rev. Amanda Hambrick



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

I shall rise, I shall be
I shall go in victory
No weapon formed against me
Will ever overtake me

And because God/Love is the greatest power
We shall never, never be defeated

The enemy's is a liar
God/Love is exalted
Never be defeated (x2)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto**Musicians in Worship** • Asher Denburg (Piano), Booker King (Bass), Jonathon Peretz (Drums), Hajime Yoshida (Guitar), Singers: Shari Gill, Alex Bertrand, Ivan Anderson, Madge Dietrich

May 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** **We are praying for all our Middle family every day.***Please pray with us this week for these people and their loved ones:*

Allan Dabrio Marrero & Matthew, Kathe Lovegren, Carol Geu, Leslie Hahne, Julia Bartholomew-King, La'Shawna Munroe, Mary Lou Driscoll, Sofi Brazzeal, Donna Johnson, Dale Dorlin, Irshad Manji, Sandy Hardwick Pettis, Gloria Tate, for all of those whom Melvin Cunningham holds in his heart, the LGBTQIA+ community, and for the safety and well-being of all in our Middle community.

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, we invite you to head to middlechurch.org/welcome to learn more about Middle and to get connected. 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 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.

HERE ARE ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT MIDDLE CHURCH

Back by Popular Demand! 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: bit.ly/4su4wHr 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.

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! 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*

MAKE A DONATION TO MIDDLE CHURCH

Charitable Giving will require a search by EIN 90-0458939 Congregational Collegiate Collective in order to select Middle Church. Congregational Collegiate Collective 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.

Our new legal name is Middle Ministry, LLC, as a wholly owned subsidiary, but we are authorized to do business and be known as Middle Church. All donations should be written to Middle Church.

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

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

- Visit middlechurch.org/donate
- Venmo [@MiddleChurch](https://www.venmo.com/@MiddleChurch)

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

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

DONATE BY PHONE

To make a donation to Middle Church, scan this QR code.



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

MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Senior Minister, Public Theology and Partnerships
Rev. Macky Alston, Executive Minister, Operations and Development
Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins, Executive Minister, Hybrid Church
Rev. Amanda Hambrick, Community Minister for Justice & 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	

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Middle Church is part of New York's Reformed Association of the United Church of Christ (UCC) denomination. For more information about the UCC please visit ucc.org.

You can sign up for Happenings—the weekly newsletter—to stay abreast of what the New York Conference Association is doing. If you have signed up for Happenings, the eblast from the New York Conference, and you aren't receiving it, please check your spam folders. If you would like to sign up to receive Happenings every Wednesday, visit bit.ly/4cH3nHl.



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

Middle Events Calendar

SUNDAY, June 7

- 9:30 AM [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- 10:00 AM [Voter Reform Group – Online](#)
- 10:00 AM [Just Love Family Programming](#)
- 10:00 AM [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 AM** [Worship Celebration](#)
- 12:00 PM [Just Love Kids](#)
- 12:45 PM [Chat & Chew – Hybrid](#)
- 1:00 PM [Community Social Hour](#)
- 1:15 PM [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)

MONDAY, JUNE 8

- 6:30 PM [Acting Class – Hybrid](#)

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

- 7:00 PM [East Village Group – AA](#)
- 7:30 PM [Praying Dangerously – Online](#)
- 7:30 PM [Cancer Support Group – Online](#)
- 8:30 PM [East Village Group – AA](#)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

- 8:00 AM [Pray to Rise – Online](#)
- 6:00 PM [Sound Healing Sanctuary](#)
- 7:30 PM [Queer Black Men – Online](#)
- ***[New New Yorkers Community Dinner](#)
- ***See Rev. Amanda for details

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

- 1:00 PM [New Adventures – Online](#)
- 6:30 PM [Creative Writing – Online](#)
- 7:00 PM [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir](#)

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

- 6:00 PM [Convocation for Gays Against Guns Rally – Christopher Street Pier](#)

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

- 9:30 AM [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- 10:00 AM [Just Love Family Programming](#)
- 10:00 AM [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 11:45 AM** [Worship Celebration: Love is Love](#)
- 12:00 PM [Just Love Kids](#)
- 1:00 PM [Author Talk Back: Love is Love](#)
- 1:15 PM [Just Love Families & VCCY Celebration](#)
- 1:30 PM [Community Social Hour](#)

All events are listed in ET unless noted.

Visit middlechurch.org for details and updates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Middle Church events, activities, and the latest updates, visit middlechurch.org/events or scan this QR code.



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 or scan this QR code to find our rates and inquiry form here:



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