

Calendar of events

Saturdays: Saturday Night Live Open AA meeting in the Education Building, 8PM
Today: Sunday worship: Reign of Christ Sunday, 10:30AM
Today: Confirmation Class after coffee hour
November 24: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM
November 26: No Adult Education
November 27: No Joyful Noise Adult Choir — Happy Thanksgiving!
November 29: Church decorating for Advent, 1PM
November 30: First Sunday of Advent — Hope, 10:30AM. After worship, we will decorate the Church Family Christmas Tree on the Great Lawn
December 1: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM
December 3: Adult Education in Coventry House, 10AM & 7PM
December 4: Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 6PM

Consistory

Elders Dianne Asay, Financial Secretary Dolores Hofmann Lisa Leidecker, Vice President Cindy Reya, Co-Treasurer Rev. Tricia Sheffield, President	Deacons Julie Hertzog Kim Larson, Clerk Dara Steele
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Middletown Reformed Church Vision Statement

(Adopted by the Consistory 9 May 2016)
Middletown Reformed Church is a welcoming and affirming congregation, where the inclusive grace of God is the guiding principle for all our ministries. We are people of faith committed to boldly proclaiming and intentionally living out God’s command to do justice, share love, show mercy, and walk humbly with our God in our local and global communities. We are a church on the side of love for all God’s people – providing for those who are in need, advocating for all oppressed peoples, and caring for our earth – we love because God first loved us.

Notes from Pastor Trish

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Trish 212-729-9150 or e-mail at pastortrishmrc@gmail.com. You may also call the Church Office phone at 732-671-1786. Messages are picked up during the week. Pastor Trish’s office hours are Tuesday, 1-3, Wednesday, 2-4, Thursday, 1-3 or by appointment. Weekend and evening times are also available. Her day of Sabbath rest is Monday. She does not answer texts, emails, or phone calls on this day, unless it’s an emergency.

In our prayers

For the healing journey: Stephanie; Bob Bark; Henry Thorpe; a neighbor; Eric H; Nancy Coffin; Diane Grady; Joy Sheffield; Tom Smigel; Diana S
For God’s support, strength, & comfort: the Hertzog family; Michelle; Corey; Mike; Team June; the family of Dot Bradley on the recent death of her husband, Mike; Donna Arnold; Mercedes’ mother, Fran; Florence Horsman; Linda Grasso; Magdala; Fleming; Linda
For God’s guidance & discernment: Suzanne

Please continue to remember all those who have served our country, especially those who are serving: David Celeste & Joseph Petrone, United States Air Force; Michael Howlett & Lloyd Petrone, United States Marine Corps

Social media

Website: www.mrchurch.us
Facebook: Middletown Reformed Church
YouTube: MRC: A Fabulous Church of Love
Instagram: middletownreformednj
Spotify: Middletown Reformed Church podcast



Scan the QR code for a link to our online giving opportunities, or go to www.mrchurch.us/give

The flowers today are from the Flower Fund
If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary for worship, contact Dolores Hofmann at 732.671.9308. The cost is \$25.
Our greeters today are Julie Hertzog & Dara Steele.
Our greeters next week are Lisa Leidecker & Cindy Reya.

Our 2025 RCA Annual Denominational Assessment of \$107.10 per member is due. The total amount for the year is \$5,569.55, which the church pays on a quarterly basis (\$1,392.39). **So far we have received \$1,366.60 in assessments/dues.** This assessment supports the work of our Classis, Regional Synod, and the General Synod. The per capita dues of \$7 for the United Church of Christ is also due. Total amount for both RCA and UCC is \$114.10 per member. If you wish to contribute toward the assessment/dues, please mark your check in the memo section “Denominational assessment/ Dues.” You are welcome to request information at any time from the treasurer regarding the current fiscal status of the church.

Middletown Reformed Church



A welcoming & affirming congregation

Middletown Reformed Church

Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD, Pastor
Thomas Martucci, Director of Music
Julie Hertzog, Coordinator for Children & Youth

Reign of Christ Sunday23 November 2025

PreludeWhen We Pray

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Message for all agesThe Jesus WayNew Jericho Choir

Call to worship(from Worship Ways)
Emma Hertzog, liturgist

Holy Redeemer, in the dusk of this liturgical year, we recall the beauty of our days together. The blessedness of Christmas love and the light of Epiphany move us to bring illumination to our neighbors. The hope of Easter and the strength of Pentecost inspire us to bring the Good News of God’s love to this world. All of this is to create God’s Realm here on this earth, where we follow the steps of Christ, knowing the endurance of the Holy Spirit abides with us today and always as we come to worship you. Amen

*Opening hymnPraise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
(571, v 1-3, 5)

Prayer of confession(adapted from Worship Ways)
Leader: Eternal Jesus, you who rule over all of us with justice and care, we your people confess that we do not submit ourselves to your rule, that we do not always participate in your reign of equity and integrity, that we have not followed the example you set forth. Instead we often place our trust in those who let us down, and in our own flawed rule over ourselves.
All: Lead us, Christ our Sovereign, and set us on the path to righteous rule in all that we do. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, who became what we are to make us what he is. Amen

Kyrie eleison
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of God’s grace(from Worship Ways)
Hear the good news: Through the words and acts of Jesus, we experience peace, hope, and grace. God’s love is beyond limits and will move us to open ourselves to the beauty of infinite mercy. Amen

Law of Love/Faithful living

*Halle, Halle(768)
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

We listen to God

Scripture readingJeremiah 29.4-14
Revelation 21.1-5
Brenner Larson, liturgist (Translation, The Message)

AnthemKing Of My Heart

SermonImagine a WorldRev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

We respond to God

Affirmation of Faith(The Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A #51)
Q. How does this glory of Christ our head benefit us?
A. First, through his Holy Spirit he pours out gifts from heaven upon us his members. Second, by his power he defends us and keeps us safe from all enemies.

Invitation to the offering

OffertoryDid You Ever Talk to God Above?
New Jericho Choir

*Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God, above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

The Prayers of the People with the Lord’s Prayer
You are invited to pray the Lord’s Prayer in any version or language you wish.
Ever-loving and holy God, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

*Closing hymnCome, We that Love The Lord
(483, v 1-3)

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.

+ Our restroom is located downstairs through the entryway next to the filing cabinets

