

Welcome Guests! We're glad you're here. You can learn more about us via the brochure in the back of the seat in front of you, or at www.firstparishyork.net.

Restrooms: Restrooms are located on the lower level of this building, which is accessed by stairs in the foyer. Wheelchair accessible restrooms can be found across the drive in Fellowship Hall. For access during the worship service, please see a Deacon.

Nursery Care: *Our downstairs nursery is not currently staffed due to our pandemic restrictions, but you are welcome to accompany your child to the nursery at any point during the worship and spend time there as a family if you feel that you need to.*

Video and Streaming: We stream our worship services live and archive them on www.youtube.com. If for privacy reasons you do not wish to have you or your children's faces appear on video, you can sit in pews that are marked on the ends with blue tape. Feel free to ask a deacon to show you what those markings look like.

Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

Sunday School: In response to the current state of the pandemic, our Sunday School programs look a little different than usual! For now, Sunday School will be taking place outside as often as weather permits, and when it doesn't, we will adhere to strict masking and distancing protocols inside the Fellowship Hall. During the school year, anyone age 4 through 8th grade is welcome to attend Sunday School. *We ask that parents/guardians fill out a registration form on the first visit; our Deacons will be happy to connect you with someone from Sunday School before the children make their way outside.* During the worship service, following the Message for All Ages, children will be invited to meet with their teachers in the church foyer. Together, students and teachers will make their way outside to take part in fun and faith-based activities centered around a theme from the Bible. (Family members are always welcome to attend Sunday School if you wish!) After worship is over, families can go outside and sign out their children with the teachers. If you have any questions about the masking and distancing protocols practiced by First Parish's youth programs, please do reach out to Pastor Dan or any of our Sunday School teachers. Sunday School is free of charge.

Pastoral Care: If you'd like to meet with a pastor, please call the office at (207) 363-3758, or send an email to eric@firstparishyork.net or dan@firstparishyork.net. The pastors are also available to make hospital visits, and we ask that you let us know if you or a family member would like a visit. Due to hospital confidentiality regulations, the hospital will not inform us unless you explicitly ask them to do so.



FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021~9:30AM WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (CANDLE OF HOPE)**

**Indicates a time when you are invited to stand if you choose.*

PRELUDE Advent Suite Pietro A. Yon (1886-1943)
I. Rorate Coeli ("SHOWER, O HEAVENS, FROM ABOVE")
II. Veni Emmanuel ("O COME, EMMANUEL")

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Eric Dupee

CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION
(Candles will be lit as a sign of Christ's light in the world.)

GATHERING PRAY *(together)*
Compassionate God, greet us with your grace today. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield the peace as only you can give. Help us to find that place where we can receive as well as give, wait as well as act, and listen as well as speak. Come to us now, through Jesus the Christ who taught us to pray...

LORD'S PRAYER *(together)*
Our Father, who art in heaven, 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.

***OPENING HYMN** "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL" No. 154

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE
The Scapicchio Family

(Children ages 4 and up will be invited to go to the church foyer to meet with our Sunday School teachers immediately following the lighting of the Advent candle.)

ANTHEM "PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD" Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)
*Prepare ye the way of the Lord.
O blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Sing hosanna to your King.
Sing out to God and praise the King of Kings, Lord of Lords.*
First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Psalm 25:1-10 O.T. page 465 Pat Smith

SERMON "THE GIFTS OF WAITING" Rev. Eric Dupee

RESPONSE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS Veni Domine – Hymn for Peace
(from *Advent Suite*) Pietro A. Yon

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** No. 34

***CLOSING HYMN** "LIFT UP YOUR HEADS" No. 271

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE "WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING"
Setting: Paul Manz (1919-2009)

*"The flowers are given in loving memory of Grace and Chet Trafton,
Marion and John Beals, Earl and Alice Smith and the Albion Plaisted Family
by Earl B. Smith, Jr. and families.*

"Flowers given by Shawn McCartee with gratefulness and thanks for the unwavering support systems in my life - faith, family, friends, and communities of faith."



THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, November 28th	9:30am Worship/Advent I 10:45am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Monday, November 29th	8am Zumba
Tuesday, November 30th	8:30am Yoga
Wednesday, December 1st	8am Cardio/Strength 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Church Council Meeting
Thursday, December 2nd	8am Zumba 9am Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting 3pm Stewardship Committee Meeting 5pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday, December 3rd	8am Aerobics
Saturday, December 4th	9:30am-11:30am Berries & Balsam Pick Up 8:30am Christian Education Meeting 9:30am-11:30am Berries & Balsom Pick Up
Sunday, December 5th	9:30am Worship/Advent II/Communion 10:45am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Prayer Tree: It is well-known the holiday season is a difficult time for a lot of people. It is when many feel loss and disappointment most acutely. This year we will designate one of the small trees directly in front of the Parish House (church offices) as a Prayer Tree. We are making tags available upon which we invite church members and members of the community to write some loss they have experienced, or something they grieve, or a prayer that weighs on their heart. Tags are available today in the narthex, if you would like to attach it to the tree.

Nativity Bible Study: December 8, 15, and 22 at 7pm on Zoom. Many of us know the story of the birth of Jesus, but how long has it been since you've really sat down and explored the accounts of Jesus' birth at the source? What surprising details do we often overlook, and what messages did God place there for you this Advent season? Join Pastor Dan for a dive into one of the most famous tales of all time as we wait for Christmas to arrive together. Contact dan@firstparishyork.net for Zoom invite and the weekly Scripture readings.

Food Pantry Drive & One Warm Coat: Wednesday, December 1 at 10am-11am. We are in need of 2-3 more volunteers this day, as we will be collecting food and coats! Please contact Linda Blake (lblake50@gmail.com) or Linda Drew (p.l.drew79@me.com) to help! Items suggested for Food Pantry: sml sugar, sml flour, sml cooking oil, boxed milk, mayo, Progresso soups, sml laundry detergents. Monetary contributions are most welcome as well. We thank you for your continued and strong support!

Green Tip/News: THANK YOU for using reusable shopping bags, reusable water bottles, travel cups, no straws, taking compostable leftover containers into the restaurant when you dine out and composting your food scraps (we, as a church, have been doing this since May 2019!) It takes a village...



Ministers
All the Members of the Congregation
 Leading Worship Today:
 Reverend Eric Dupee

Staff
 Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries
 Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate
First Parish Church Lay Leaders
 Jan Jonas, Moderator
 John Covino, Vice Moderator
 Ray Hamlin, Treasurer
 Susan Mancinelli, Clerk



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