

**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](http://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*, 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/@firstparishyork](https://www.youtube.com/@firstparishyork). 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.

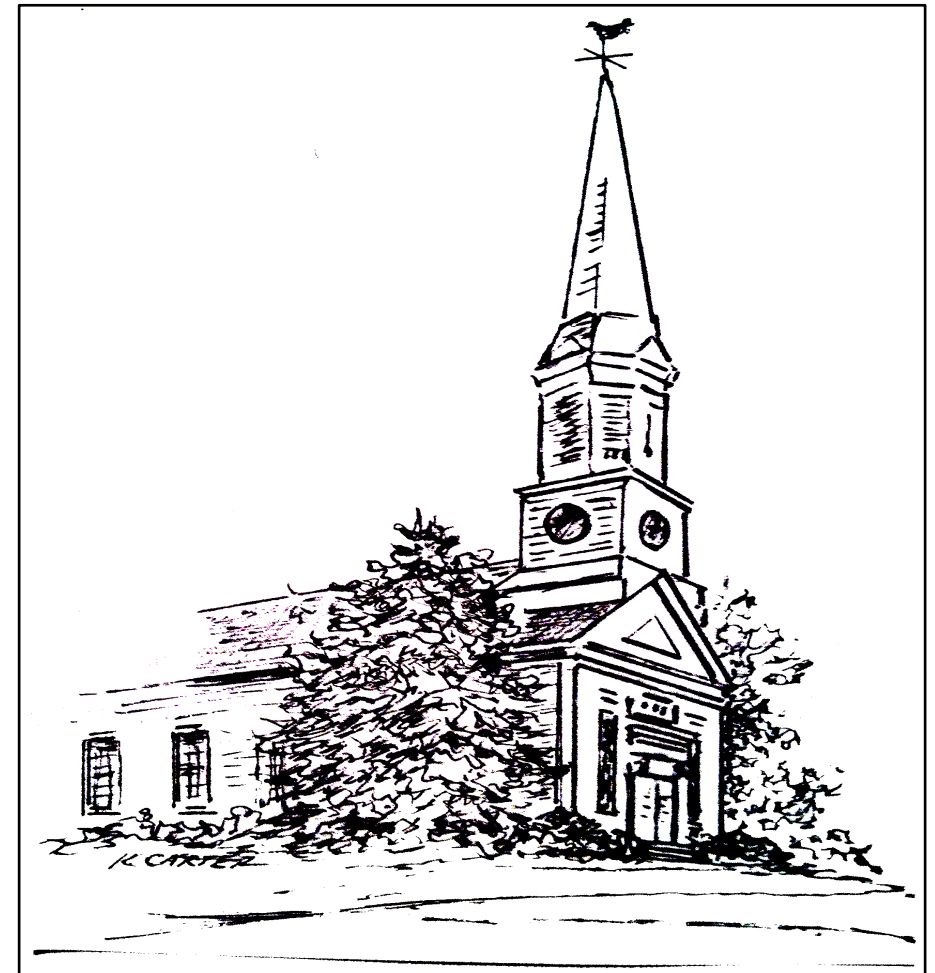
**Photos:** We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

**Sunday School:** 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. Partway through Sunday services, children are invited to meet with their teachers in the church foyer. Together, students and teachers will make their way to the Fellowship Hall 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 across the drive to sign out their children with the teachers. Sunday School is free of charge.

**No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are On Life's Journey,  
You Are Welcome Here!**

We covenant with God and with one another as members of First Parish Church to be an Open and Affirming Church. We affirm the dignity and worth of every person created in the image of God. We are one body with many members: people of every age, marital status, family structure, faith background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, racial and cultural identity, and socio-economic status. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we invite all into the full life, ministry, and sacraments of the church. We honor the guiding principle that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's message of unconditional love.

180 York Street, York, Maine 03909 ♦ 207-363-3758  
[office@firstparishyork.net](mailto:office@firstparishyork.net) ♦ [www.firstparishyork.net](http://www.firstparishyork.net)



**First Parish Church  
Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be  
called children of God.” Matthew 5:9**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP**

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

**PRELUDE** Two Pieces Henry Purcell (1658-1695)  
Voluntary and Choral

**WELCOME AND 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 PRAYER** *(together)* Carolyn Dupre

**With different gifts, with a variety of talents, with an array of interests, we come to worship you, our creating God. We are here to unite our spirits, to be made one in Jesus Christ. Bless our differences, that the unique gifts and perceptions of each may strengthen our oneness. Drawn into your Spirit, we worship in the name of the living 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**      “FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS”      No. 621

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES** Rev. Dan Hollis

*(Children ages 4 and up are invited to go to the church foyer to meet with their Sunday School teachers immediately following the Message for All Ages.)*

**ANTHEM**      “LEAD ME, LORD” Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)  
*Lead me, Lord. Lead me in thy righteousness.*  
*Make thy way plain before my face.*  
*For it is thou, Lord, only that makes me dwell in safety.*  
*—based on Psalm 5:8 and Psalm 4:9*  
**First Parish Vocal Ensemble**

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**SCRIPTURE**      Jonah 3:1-5, 10   O.T. 814                      Carolyn Dupre

**SERMON**                      “A Whale of a Story”                      Rev. Eric Dupee

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**      Largo    Samuel Wesley (1766-1837)

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** *(together)* No. 34  
*You are free to sing inclusive lyrics (below) or traditional lyrics (from the hymnal).*  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**                  “TRUST AND OBEY”                  No. 443

**CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN** Rev. Eric Dupee

**POSTLUDE**                      Trumpet Tune    John Stanley (1713-1786)

*We invite the congregation to remain seated in order to enjoy the postlude.  
However, you are welcome to exit the sanctuary at any time.*

*Flowers are given in loving memory of Mary Ross by her dear friend Lynne Tocci.*



First Parish Church  
Congregational  
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**FAITH FEATURES**

**THIS WEEK**

**Today, Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**

10am Worship  
3pm Seacoast Community Chorus Concert  
“Singing Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs”

**Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

8:30am Shake It Up  
4:30pm Capital Campaign Committee Meeting  
6:30pm Church Council Meeting

**Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

8am Interval Training  
10am Beginner’s Bible Study

**Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

8am Cardio/Strength  
9:30am Women’s Bible Study

**Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**

8am Zumba  
5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

8am Aerobics

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**

10am Worship  
11:30am Meeting the Angels Workshop



**Ministers**

*All the Members of the Congregation  
Leading Worship Today:*

*Rev. Eric Dupee  
Rev. Dan Hollis*

**Staff**

*Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries*

*Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate*

**First Parish Church Lay Leaders**

*John Covino, Moderator*

*Kristin Schrimper, Vice Moderator*

*Ray Hamlin, Treasurer*

**First Parish Church Visioning Forum:** If God were to identify a New Year’s Resolution for First Parish Church, what would it be? This is the latest question we hope you will consider and submit a reply. You can write it on the newsprint in the entrance to the church or email Pastor Eric at [eric@firstparishyork.net](mailto:eric@firstparishyork.net).

**Dine with Nine Update:** The sign up table is back in Fellowship Hall. You may also email your requests to Linda Drew [p.l.drew79@me.com](mailto:p.l.drew79@me.com). There are over 120 opportunities to join in the fun. To date about 60 people have signed up! Please FEEL FREE to sign up more than once!

**Mission@Home:** If you find yourself in need of a little extra help, contact the Mission@Home service of First Parish Church. Volunteers from many walks of life with a variety of skills are willing to lend a hand. Recently, parishioners have requested and received help with rides to church, small household projects, and moving furniture. Email the church office at [office@firstparishyork.net](mailto:office@firstparishyork.net) or call 207-363-3758 to be linked with a volunteer.

**Meeting the Angels Workshop:** January 28 11:30am-1pm. Angels are mentioned hundreds of times in the Old and New Testaments! If they are THAT important shouldn't we seek to know more about them? You are invited to this workshop to learn more about God's purpose for angels in our lives. This group will include music, meditation and personal sharing. Please contact Kathie White via email at [kwhitemed@gmail.com](mailto:kwhitemed@gmail.com) with any questions or to reserve your spot. Space is limited.

**Beginner’s Bible Study:** Introducing a four-part Beginner’s Bible Study led by Pastor Eric. This will be held on January 16, 30, and February 6 from 10am -11:15am in Pastor Eric’s office. If you are someone who would never go to a Bible study because you’re intimidated or you’re concerned about how little you know, this is for you. We will start with the most basic introduction to the Bible and interpret some passages together. Just come as you are. Bibles will be provided if you don’t have one. Contact Pastor Eric with questions.

**Green Tips/News:** Climate Justice Camp/Pilgrim Lodge July 21-27 campers entering grades 9-12 and HS grads! “Climate Justice Camp has been created for young people of diverse cultural and religious backgrounds to engage in meaningful conversations that respect the spiritual and religious paths of all campers.” Offered in partnership with the BTS Center. Enrollment open now! [www.pilgrimlodge.org](http://www.pilgrimlodge.org)



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