

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*, 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. 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.

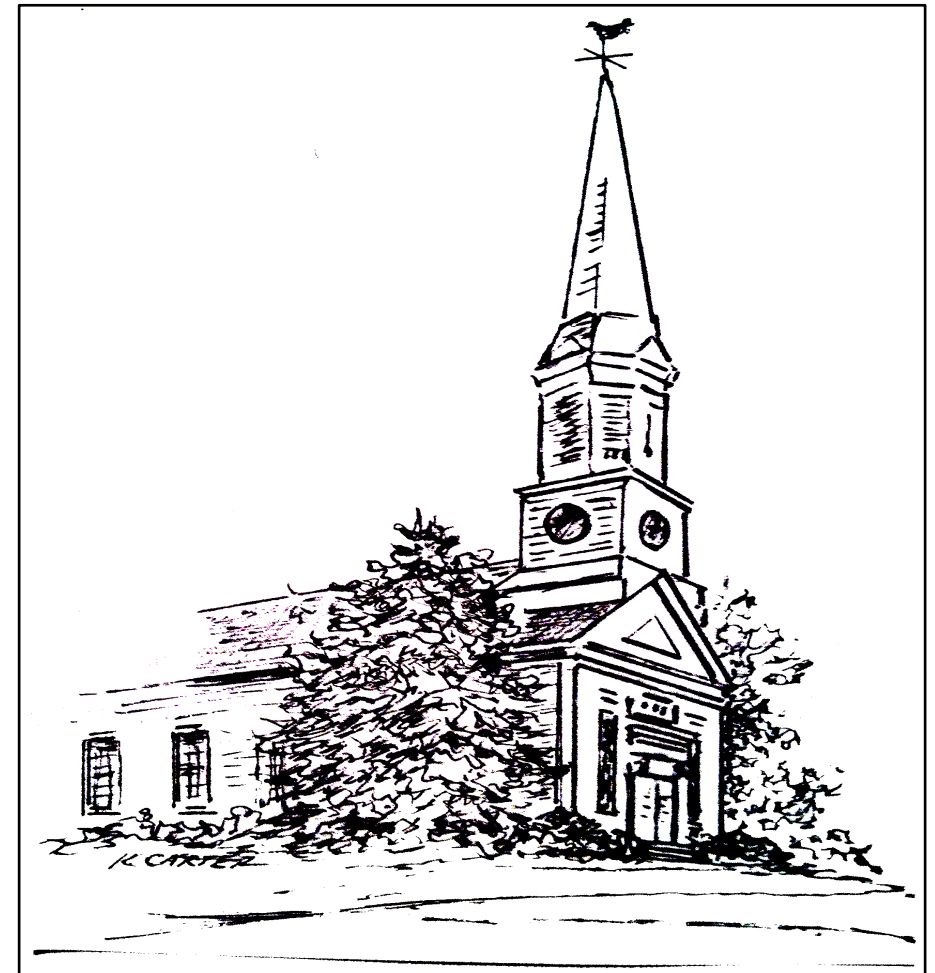
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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
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**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 28, 2024 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE “MY FAITH HAS FOUND A RESTING PLACE”
Norwegian Folk Melody, arr. David Hamilton
Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Eric Dupee

L: We come to worship lonely or empty or discouraged.
P: We come from unfinished projects, ruined plans, and multiple irritations.
L: We come from broken diets, unanswered e-mail, and a week without bedtime prayers.
P: From Inadequacy we seek God’s wholeness.
L: We hope to be freed for love and service.
P: Let us worship in Spirit and in truth.

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

GATHERING PRAYER *(together)* Rev. Dan Hollis
We gather before you, God, thankful that you receive us. Find the places where we hurt and shine on them with healing. Find the places where we run from you and gather us home. Then mold us and shape us into one body in Jesus Christ who taught his followers 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** “I SING THE ALMIGHTY POWER OF GOD” No. 31

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 "CANTICLE OF HOPE” Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)
*Lord, you are God, perfect in holiness.
Lord, you are God of the needy and the poor.
A sure defender, you are our refuge. You are the Giver, you are Jehovah.
You are the God who restores. We call on you, our sure salvation.
You wipe away each tear. You hear our every prayer.
You give us comfort. You touch our hearts and calm our fears.
In our darkness you are everlasting light!*
— based on Isaiah 25
First Parish Sanctuary Choir
Rob Finch, conductor

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Jonah 1:1-17 O.T. 813 Phyllis Giordano

SERMON “A Whale of a Story: Part II” Rev. Eric Dupee

OFFERING OUR GIFTS “MARVELOUS GRACE”
Daniel B. Towner, arr. Tom Fette

***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** “COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING” No. 68

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN Rev. Eric Dupee

POSTLUDE “BECAUSE HE LIVES”
Gaither and Gaither, arr. Cindy Berry

*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 her husband and son by Tricia Gosselin.



First Parish Church
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FAITH FEATURES

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, January 28th

10am Worship
11:30am Meet the Angels Workshop

Monday, January 29th

Tuesday, January 30th

8:30am Shake It Up
8am Interval Training
10am Beginner's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 31st

8am Cardio/Strength
9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom
7pm Faith 101

Thursday, February 1st

8am Zumba
5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal

Friday, February 2nd

8am Aerobics
6pm Middle School Youth Group

Saturday, February 3rd

Sunday, February 4th

8:30am Christian Education Meeting
10am Worship/Communion
11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



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

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. 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!

First Wednesday Food Pantry Drive: Wednesday February 7 from 10AM-11AM. Would love a couple of new volunteers! Have not received the "Wish List" yet; let's assume white tuna, Knorr Pasta and Sides, salad dressings and Progresso soups would be wonderful. Thank you for your continued participation. Questions? Linda Drew 207-351-8141 or p.l.drew79@icloud.com

Scripture Readers: If you are interested in reading Scripture at any Sunday service and would like to be added to the list, please contact Carolyn Dupre at cardup8@gmail.com. It can be very flexible and we would love to hear from you. On another note, if you are on the list of Scripture Readers presently and would like to be take off, contact Caroly as well and you will be removed.

Meeting the Angels Workshop: Today, 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 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 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.

Faith 101 (Faith Formation for Adults): Wednesdays at 7PM, get to know your faith better with another one-month weekly class led by Pastor Dan. Whether you feel like you're a "beginner" Christian or your spirit could just use a refresher, these once-a-week group gatherings are accessible no matter where you are on life's journey. Learning, discussion, and even some fun activities, all in an hour and fifteen minutes. This unit, "Get to Know Christ," will take place **January 31, February 7, February 14, and February 21.**

Contact dan@firstparishyork.net if you are interested in attending or learning more!



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