

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.

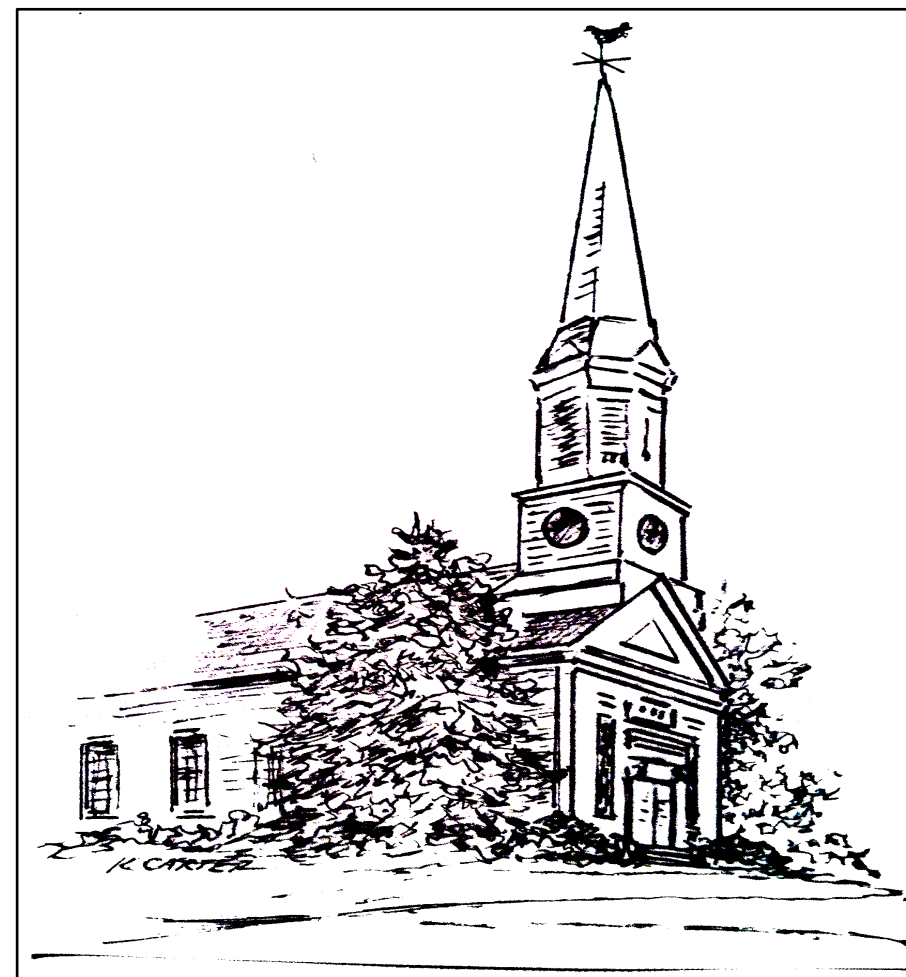
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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
office@firstparishyork.net ♦ www.firstparishyork.net



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

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O Lord, My rock and my
redeemer. Psalm 19:14

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023 ~ 10AM WORSHIP

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

9:45AM HYMN SING

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.)

“CHRISTIANS, WE HAVE MET TO WORSHIP” Arr., Lloyd Larson (b.1954)

First Parish Handbell Choir

GATHERING PRAYER *(together)*

Rev. Dan Hollis

God, with great gentleness and care, you call us to be your people and to do your work. Be here with us today, for we come, asking for your support in all that we do. We need your love transforming our lives in hope. Be with us, and hear us as we 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** “JESUS SHALL REIGN” *(verses 1-3)* No. 341

(Children ages 4 and up are invited to go to the church foyer to meet with their Sunday School teachers immediately following the Opening Hymn.)

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Phyllis Giordano

ANTHEM

“FORGETTING WHAT LIES BEHIND”

Words and Music: Gary Hallquist (b. 1954)

*Lord, you’ve been our stronghold, our fortress and our rock,
a very present help in time of need.*

You heard us when we called your name. You rushed to our defense.

Yet now more than ever we look to you to lead.

Jesus, we are trusting in every word you said.

We know you’re interceding for us now.

You sent your Holy Spirit to guide us in the truth.

In humble adoration before your throne we bow.

Forgetting what lies behind, and straining toward what’s ahead,

We run with the goal to win the heavenward call.

We’re laying aside our sin and every useless weight.

We’re keeping our eyes on Him, the Savior of all.

First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:4b-14 N.T. 175

Kathy McQueeney

SERMON

“The Best Is Yet To Come”

Rev. Eric Dupee

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Hymn Setting on “REST”

Rex Koury (1911-2006)

***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** “JESUS CALLS US O’ER THE TUMULT” No. 345

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE

March Royale Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687)

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 Ellen Dawson. “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life.” by Mary Oliver Love Stu

THIS WEEK



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

FAITH FEATURES

Sunday, October 8th

9:45am Hymn Sing
10am Worship
11am Inquirers Coffee and Conversation
11am Out to Lunch Bunch
11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
2pm Family Fun and Chili Fest

Monday, October 9th

Tuesday, October 10th

8:30am Shake It Up
8:30am Yoga
6:30pm Assessors Meeting

Wednesday, October 11th

8am Strength Training
9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom
4pm Mission Committee Meeting
6:30pm Deacons Meeting
7pm Faith 101

Thursday, October 12th

8am Zumba
5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm Stewardship Committee Meeting
7pm Sanctuary Choir

Friday, October 13th

Sunday, October 15th

8am Aerobics
6pm Youth Group-grades 5-8
10am Worship
8:30am Inquirers Coffee and Conversation
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

Susan Mancinelli, Clerk



The Pumpkin Patch: *Pumpkins are here!* Volunteers needed in the Pumpkin Patch. Any and all volunteers will be gratefully accepted. No experience necessary. Check your calendars now! Chris Briley, Richard Leigh, Bob and Joanne Myers

Sign Up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49ACAF23A6F85-2023#/>

Family Fun & Chili Fest: Come one come all. Today, Sunday at 2pm in the Pumpkin Patch. There will many different kinds of chili, beer bread, cornbread, and games. It will be a great way to celebrate the pumpkin patch and share some great food and company!

Out to Lunch Bunch: We're going somewhere today, October 8. We will gather in the Narthex or in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour after worship. Decision about where we will go will be made. Will leave at 11:30am. Any and all are welcome to come. Happy to carpool, too! Need further info? Linda Drew p.l.drew79@me.com or 207-351-8141

Coffee Hour: Java Mamas and Papas are looking for more team members. Have you wondered how much fun it is to serve coffee after church? We get to enjoy welcoming those visiting First Parish, have chats with members as they come through the line. Please sign up to bring goodies for a Sunday in October. Questions? Linda Hart 207 337 0782

Inquirers Series: Visitors and guest are invited to two Inquirers Coffee and Conversations information sessions today, October 8 from 11am-12noon or October 15 from 8:30am-9:30am. Contact the Parish office at office@firstparishyork.net or 207-363-3758 to RSVP.

Green Tip/News: Natural Resources Council of Maine (NCRM) is celebrating an historic moment for offshore wind in Maine. Collaborating with organized labor, fishing groups and wildlife specialists, to name a few, the groups developed consensus language that ensures we're building a clean energy future that works for all Mainers.

When the law, approved by the legislature in 2023, goes into effect, it could help power half of our economy with Maine-made offshore wind energy by 2040. www.NCRM.com



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