

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.

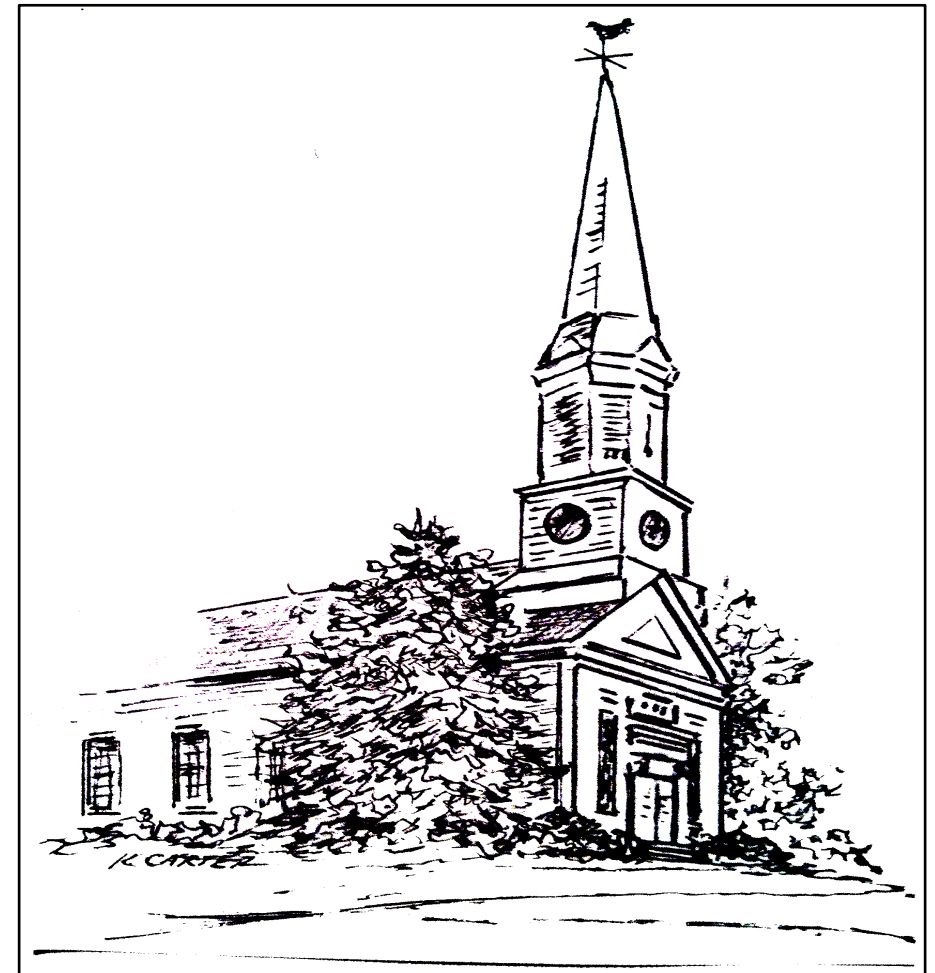
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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**

**"In the world you face persecution. But take
courage; I have conquered the world!"
John 16:33**

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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

PRELUDE Chorale, Chorale Prelude, and Harmonization
 on “JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE”
 Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

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.)
 “SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER” Arr. Sandra Eithun (b. 1963)
 First Parish Handbell Choir

GATHERING PRAYER *(together)* Linda Bruce
Spirit of God, descend upon our hearts. Wean them from the earth; move through all their pulses. Stoop to our weaknesses, though you are mighty; and make us love you as we are born to love. We pray this in the name of Jesus, 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 “JESUS SHALL REIGN” No. 341

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

(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 “GIVE ME JESUS” Traditional Spiritual
 Arr., Moses Hogan (1957-2003)
 *I heard my mother say, “Give me Jesus.
You may have all this world. Give me Jesus.”
Dark midnight was my cry. “Give me Jesus.”
Oh when I come to die, give me Jesus.
You may have all this world. Give me Jesus.”*
 Gina Connolly, soprano
 First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 5:5-10 N.T. 194 Linda Bruce

SERMON “Introducing Melchizedek” Rev. Eric Dupee

OFFERING OUR GIFTS Meditation on “JESUS, THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE”
 Arr., Joyce Jones (1933-2022)

*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 “LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING” No. 748

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN Rev. Eric Dupee

POSTLUDE Recessional on “CWM RHONDDA”
 Arr., Phil Lehebauer (b. 1960)

*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 our nephews, Mark and Kevin Lathrop
from Sherry and Jeff McConnell.*



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ
FAITH FEATURES

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, March 17th

10am Worship/Lent V/Handbells will provide special music during worship

11:15am Birthday Brunch Pot Luck

11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

5pm Eat, Fast, Feast-Book Study Group

8:30am Shake It Up

8:30am Yoga

8am Interval Training

9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom

5pm Caregiving Committee Meeting

8am Zumba

5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal

7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (all voices)

8am Aerobics

10am Worship/Lent VI/Palm Sunday

11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (all voices)

Monday, March 18th

Tuesday, March 19th

Wednesday, March 20th

Thursday, March 21st

Friday, March 22nd

Sunday, March 24th



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

Birthday Brunch Pot Luck: After worship in Fellowship Hall. Everybody's birthday is celebrated as we sit at 12 decorated tables based on each person's birthday month.

Creation Care Committee: Meeting Monday, March 18 was canceled and is rescheduled for April 7 at 11:15am in Moody Hall.

York Ready for Climate Action: 2nd Annual Climate Fair on Saturday, March 23 from 10am-2pm at York High School. Over 60 vendors: heat pumps, solar, EV's, Ebikes, native plant growers, Efficiency Maine, Windowdressers, green gardeners, Creation Care, sustainable house realtors, Mr. Fox composters, We Fill Good, Habitat. Doorprizes, kids' activities, and energy coaches. Fun for the whole family!

Mission Opportunity: We will be traveling to Salem TWP, Maine from June 23-28 to do mission work. Our work will include home repair, painting, etc. for those in need in this rural area of our state. We will live and eat together and sleep in 2 bunk houses. The property sleeps 22 with RV and tenting sites available. We are looking for folks high school age and older to join us for this week. We are hoping for some people with some experience with small construction projects. We have jobs for all skill levels. We are also looking for 2 people to commit to shopping for and preparing the meals for the group and staying the week with us. The cost is \$300/person which goes directly for materials for the home improvements. There will be a nominal cost for food and transportation. We hope to fundraise and seek donations to offset some of this cost of materials and food.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact

Carolyn Dupre cardup8@gmail.com or call 207 752-3247. Link to the website:

<https://www.umeconomicministry.com/bring-a-mission-team>

Green News/Tips: 2023 Report Card - Environmental Rollbacks Defeated in 2023.

These bills were defeated: efforts to terminate the following: the ban on single-use plastic bags; Maine's net-energy billing program for solar energy; the development of offshore wind power; a bill to weaken the Public Utility Commissions' role in helping address climate change and attempts to terminate the Northern Maine renewable energy project. www.ncrm.org



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