

**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](http://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.

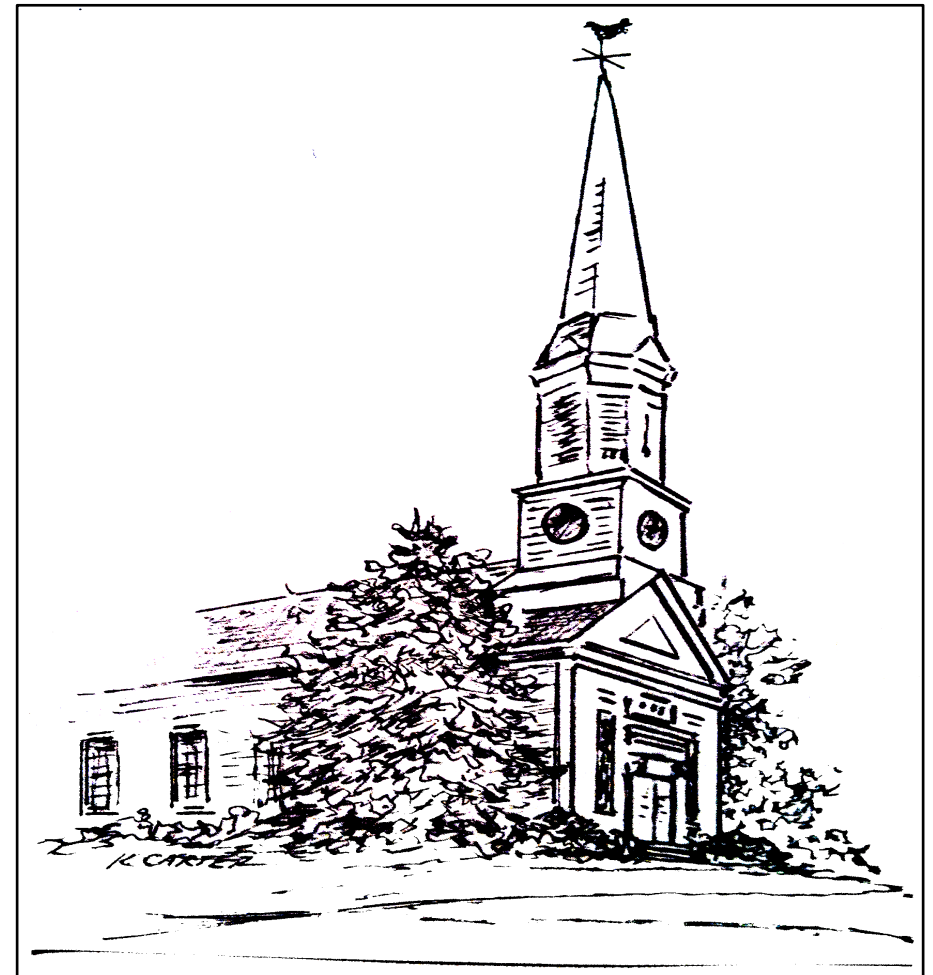
**Photos:** We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

**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**

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP  
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT/COMMUNION

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

**PRELUDE**    Lenten Hymn Settings                      Arr., Joyce Jones (1933-2022)  
1. Pastorale on “JESUS, THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE”  
2. Meditation on “JESUS, THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE”  
3. Prelude on “THE CROSS OF CHRIST”

**WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP** *(adapted from Psalm 66)*                      Rev. Eric Dupee  
L: Come from wandering, Come into worship! Come with your longings and your questions. In the wilderness, remember: God is here!  
**P: God is here!**  
L: The heavens are telling the glory of God! How shall we join their witness?  
**P: With words that proclaim God’s inclusive love, with works of mercy, with worship that rejoices in God’s presence. Amen!**

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

**GATHERING PRAYER** *(together)*  
**God, though we want to live as your children, sometimes we get confused. Sometimes we place a high value on things that can only turn to dust. Help us as we discern the things that will endure. Lead us to the eternal tents where we will live in communion with you, through 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**                      “TO GOD BE THE GLORY”                      No. 66

*(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.)*

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**                      Rev. Pat Smith

**ANTHEM**                      "GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD" (from *The Crucifixion*)  
John Stainer (1840-1901)  
*God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.  
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world through Him might be saved. -- John 3:16-17*  
**First Parish Sanctuary Choir**

**SCRIPTURE**                      John 3:1-16    N.T. 81                      Kathy McQueeney

**SERMON**                      “Are You Born Again?”                      Rev. Eric Dupee

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**                      Le Prie-Dieu (A Meditation)  
George Oldroyd (1866-1951)

*(Please sign and pass the maroon fellowship pads on the center aisle of each pew, look at the names as they are passed back and forth and greet one another after the service.)*

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** *(together)*                      No. 359

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
All are welcome to take Communion. The trays will be passed throughout the congregation. We eat the bread at the same time to symbolize our unity, then we drink from our cups individually as a symbol of our individual relationships with Christ. (We serve grape juice, not wine, and have a pre-sealed option as well as gluten free crackers available in the center of the bread trays.)

**\*CLOSING HYMN**                      “BLESSED ASSURANCE”                      No. 426

**CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**    Trumpet Tune in C Major    David N. Johnson (1922-1988)

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

*Communion flowers are provided by the Esther W. Hungerford Fund.*



First Parish Church  
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United Church of Christ  
**FAITH FEATURES**

**Planet Aid:** Great news! The bright yellow Planet Aid bins for textiles, clothes and shoes will be residing again on our front lawn for the month of April. A prompt to start your spring cleaning early. Bring your towels, old linens, curtains, unsellable clothing and shoes to the bins right here instead of depositing at the Transfer Station. The bin will be emptied every Tuesday. Tell your friends and neighbors; this opportunity is for everyone in our town! Pass it on!

**Attic Treasures Sale:** A Reuse and Recycle Event **Saturday, June 24**. Please save your treasures for June 24. Suggested donations include: household items, wall hangings, jewelry, glassware, lamps, china, collectables, and small furniture (20lbs. or less). Drop off dates will be announced in May. **Please stay tuned for more information will follow.**

**Invitation:** Create a Vision Board for Spring using collage in an informal workshop. **Sunday, March 12 from 11:30am-1:30pm in Fellowship Hall.** A collage is an art work created by gluing pictures, words and shapes in a meaningful design. In this informal, relaxed workshop we will each create a visual that represents our hopes for spring using collage as our medium. Start collecting materials such as used stamps, newspaper clippings, photographs and greeting cards that represent what is important to you. Please bring magazines and other printed materials to share and your own scissors and glue. Research has shown that visualizing your goals improves motivation and follow through.

<https://www.oprahdaily.com/life/a29959841/how-to-make-a-vision-board/>

RSVP [cbufithis@mac.com](mailto:cbufithis@mac.com) (Cindy Bufithis)

**Green Tip/News:** “Bad news breaks suddenly; GOOD news happens all the time.” D. Pogue. Interesting opportunities to read about scientific breakthroughs, a startup that made climate action history, five best science books to read, how transforming lawns into treescapescould help fight climate change and all sorts of miscellany. Go to [nicenews.com](http://nicenews.com); [naturebriefing.com](http://naturebriefing.com); [delanceyplace.com](http://delanceyplace.com).

**THIS WEEK**

**Today, Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

10am Worship/Lent II/Communion  
11am Fellowship in Action-Boston  
11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
1pm Lent-First Parish Walks

**Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am Shake It Up  
8:30am Yoga  
9am Building & Grounds Committee Meeting  
2:30pm Pastoral Relations Committee

**Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

8am Strength Training  
9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom  
10am Lent-First Parish Walks  
6:30pm Lent-Guided Prayer and Bible Reflection-Zoom

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

8am Zumba  
3pm Stewardship Committee Meeting  
5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
6pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal  
7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

8am Aerobics  
10:30am Lent-First Parish Walks  
9:45am Hymn Sing  
10am Worship/Lent III



**Ministers**

*All the Members of the Congregation*

*Leading Worship Today:*

*Rev. Eric Dupee*

**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*



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