

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.

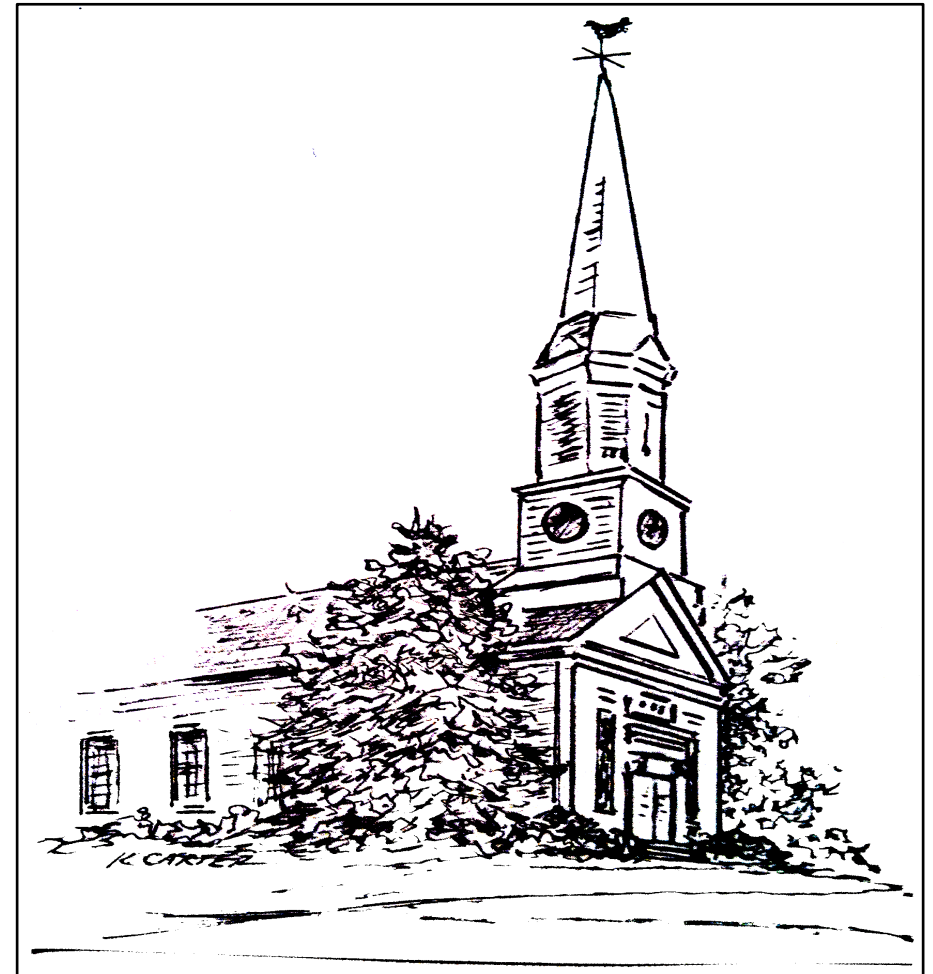
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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**

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023 ~ 10AM WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Trumpet Tune in D Major Gilbert M. Martin (b. 1941)
Hymn Prelude on “PROMISE” Arr., Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Eric Dupee
L: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God’s sight chosen and precious.
P: We have responded to Christ’s call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house.
L: We have been called out of the darkness into God’s marvelous light. Therefore, we sing.
P: By God’s mercy we have been born anew to a living hope.

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

GATHERING PRAYER *(together)* Carolyn Dupre
God our Mother and Father, we come to you as children. Be with us as we learn to see one another with new eyes, hear one another with new hearts, and treat one another in a new way, following in the footsteps of the One 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** “CHRIST IS ALIVE!” *(verses 1-3 and 5)* No. 312

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 "BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR" Arr., Betsy Lee Bailey
Meredyth Goss, flute
Sweet Spirit

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:13-35 N.T. 78 Carolyn Dupe

SERMON “Loving the Stranger” Rev. Eric Dupee

OFFERING OUR GIFTS “GO YE NOW IN PEACE” Joyce Elaine Eilers (1941-2009)
Go ye now in peace and know that the love of God will guide you.
Feel His presence here beside you showing you the way.
In your time of trouble when hurt and despair are there to grieve you,
know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage.
Know that the God who sent His Son to die that you might live
will never leave you lost and alone in His beloved world.
Sweet Spirit

(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. 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** “JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE” No. 504

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune in D Major Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)

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 with gratitude to our church family for their sharing and caring ways of demonstrating God’s love. Dianne Goodwin



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ
FAITH FEATURES

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 23rd	10am Worship
Monday, April 24th	8:30am Shake It Up
Tuesday, April 25th	8:30am Yoga
Wednesday, April 26th	8am Strength Training 9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom 4pm Mission Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 27th	8am Zumba 5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (all voices)
Friday, April 28th	8am Aerobics 6pm Youth Group-grades 5-8
Saturday, April 29th	11am Memorial Service for Bill Givens
Sunday, April 30th	10am Worship 3pm Confirmation Class

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.**

Diaconate Scholarships: The Ronald A. Parsons Scholarship and the Diaconate Scholarship for high school seniors who will be attending college in the fall. Also, the Pilgrim Lodge Summer Camp Scholarship for any child who would like to attend. Go to the First Parish website www.firstparishyork.net or contact the Parish Office at 207-363-3758 or office@firstparishyork.net

Green Tip/News: Twelve Ways to Halt Climate Change: Grow a garden. Speak Truth to Power. Get a bright idea (“lightbulb smart”). Be energy smart at home (Energy Star appliances, cold water, clothes lines). Insulate early. Be as smart as your thermostat. Seize the power at the polls. Reduce, reuse and recycle. Get ready for 100% renewable energy! Power up! Get involved. HAPPY EARTH DAY!!



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 Covina, Moderator

Kristin Schrimper, Vice Moderator

Ray Hamlin, Treasurer

Susan Mancinelli, Clerk



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