

**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](https://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.

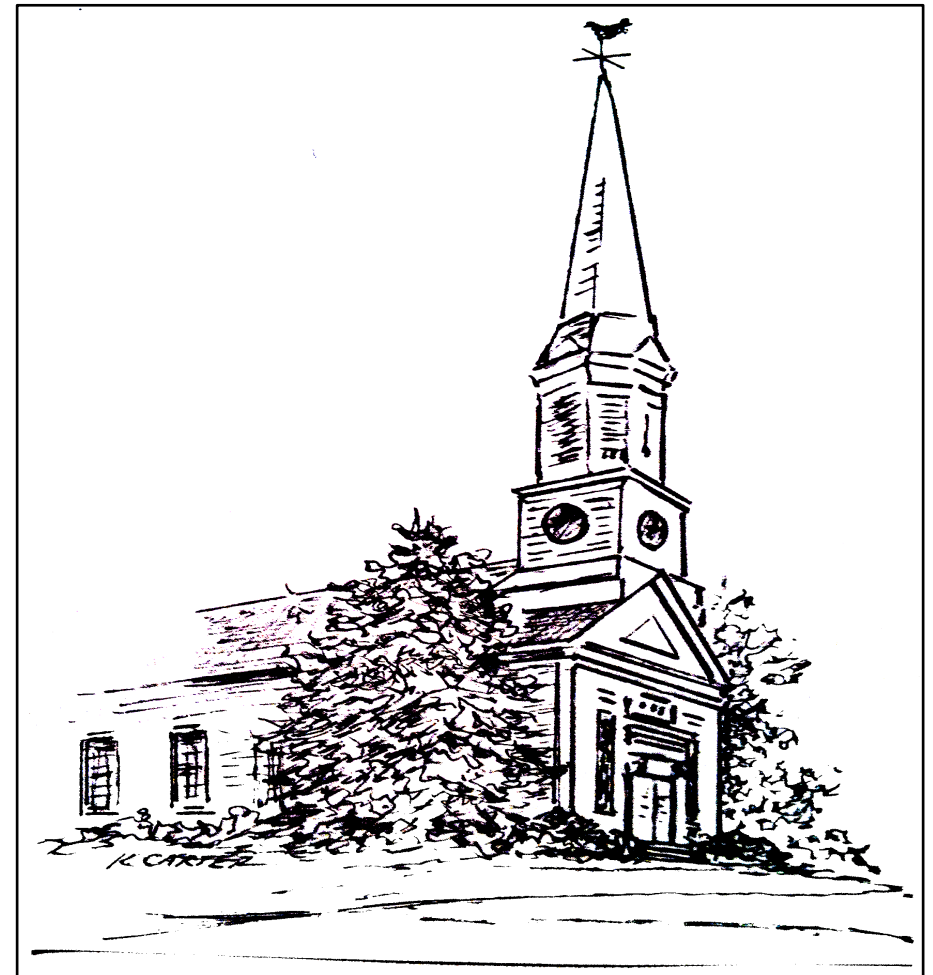
**Photos:** We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

**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**

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP**

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

**PRELUDE** Hymn Prelude on “LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING”  
Arr., Gordon Young (1919-1998)  
“GOD IS A SPIRIT”  
William Sterndale Bennett (1816-1875)

**WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Dan Hollis

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

**GATHERING PRAYER** *(together)* Rev. Pat Smith  
**God of love, open our hearts to your power moving around us and between us and within us. May your glory be revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, in communities transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken. Help us to abide in Christ’s risen life, so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy. In his name 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** “GOD’S LOVE MADE VISIBLE!” No. 226

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES** Rev. Eric Dupee

*(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** "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. — John 3:16*  
**First Parish Sanctuary Choir**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**SCRIPTURE** 1 John 4:7-21 N.T. 213

**SERMON** Rev. Dan Hollis

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS** "BE THE CHANGE" (with "THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE")  
Adapted by Laura Farnell (b. 1975)  
*Darkness cannot drive out darkness.  
Only light can do that.  
Hatred cannot drive out the hatred.  
Only love can do that.  
Only love can drive out the hate!*  
**Sweet Spirit**

**\*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** “GLORIFY THY NAME” No. 146

**CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN** Rev. Dan Hollis

**POSTLUDE** Recessional on “TO GOD BE THE GLORY”  
Arr., J. Christopher Pardini (b. 1973)  
*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 gratitude to Janet Cassidy, one of the founding members of Sweet Spirit. Janet’s faith, commitment, friendship and grace define this “ministry of love.”*

*Flowers are given in loving memory of my husband, David Ott from Eileen. Forever missed.*



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**FAITH FEATURES**

**THIS WEEK**

**Today, Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

10am Worship/ Sweet Spirit will provide special music

**Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**

11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am Shake It Up

8:30am Yoga

**Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

10am Beginner Bible Study

8am Interval Training

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom

8am Zumba

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

8am Aerobics

**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am Christian Education Meeting

**Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

10am Worship/Communion

11:15am Inquirer's Information Session

11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



**Ministers**

*All the Members of the Congregation*

*Leading Worship Today:*

*Rev. Dan Hollis*

*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*

**Beginners Bible Study:** I invite you to a new round of Beginner's Bible Study. This will be held on April 30, May 7, 14 from 10am -11:15am in my 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. Just come as you are. I will have a Bible for you if you don't have one.  
 -Pastor Eric

**Our Time, Our Opportunity Capital Campaign:** Your time, your contribution, is needed to play your part in making First Parish Church's Capital Campaign a success. We've had a fantastic start since the kick-off at our Annual Meeting in February and we are counting on your participation. If you have yet to make a contribution or a pledge, we invite you to attend a meeting that will catch you up on the progress of our campaign, answer any questions you might have, and provide you an opportunity to contribute. We have scheduled meetings that will be held after the worship service on May 5, May 12, May 19, and June 2 at 11:15 AM in Pastor Dan's office. Select your first and second choice and either call or email Betty at the church office 207-363-3758 or [office@firstparishyork.net](mailto:office@firstparishyork.net). We will be limiting attendance to no more than 15 at each meeting, so make sure you get confirmation for your meeting. We can't wait to see you at one of these important meetings. See you there!  
 Our time, Our Opportunity Campaign Committee

**First Wednesday Food Pantry Drive:** Wednesday, May 1 from 10AM-11AM. "Wish List" white tuna, Knorr Pasta and Sides, salad dressings, cake mixes and Progresso soups would be wonderful. Would love a new volunteer. Questions? Linda Drew 207-351-8141 or [p.l.drew79@icloud.com](mailto:p.l.drew79@icloud.com)

**Diaconate Scholarships:** Applications for the Ronald A. Parsons Scholarship and Diaconate Scholarship are now available. These scholarships are for high school seniors who will be attending college in the fall. Also available are scholarships to the Pilgrim Lodge Summer Camp for any child who would like to attend. Go to [www.firstparishyork.net](http://www.firstparishyork.net) for applications.

**Inquirers Coffee and Conversation:** Pastors Eric Dupee and Dan Hollis invite you to an informational meeting for those interested learning about membership at First Parish Church. We would love to learn more about you and introduce you to our church and denomination. **The Inquirer's Information Session** will be held on **Sunday, May 5 from 11:15– 12:30**. New members will join on May 19, during the Worship Service. Please contact the Parish Office at [office@firstparishyork.net](mailto:office@firstparishyork.net) or 207-363-3758 to let us know you can attend. Sue Wierzba, Welcoming Team Coordinator, in church or at [susanwierzba@gmail.com](mailto:susanwierzba@gmail.com) or 207-361-4541

**Green News/Tips:** "Experienced Americans" are the fastest growing part of the population. 10,000 people/day pass the 60 year mark. As a generation, we have unprecedented skills and resources that we can bring to bear. Washington and Wall Street have to listen when we speak because we vote and because we own almost 70% of the country's assets. If you have \$62,500 in the mainstream banking system, your money is producing more carbon than the average American does in 6 months.  
[www.350.org](http://www.350.org) [www.thirdact.org](http://www.thirdact.org)



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