

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.

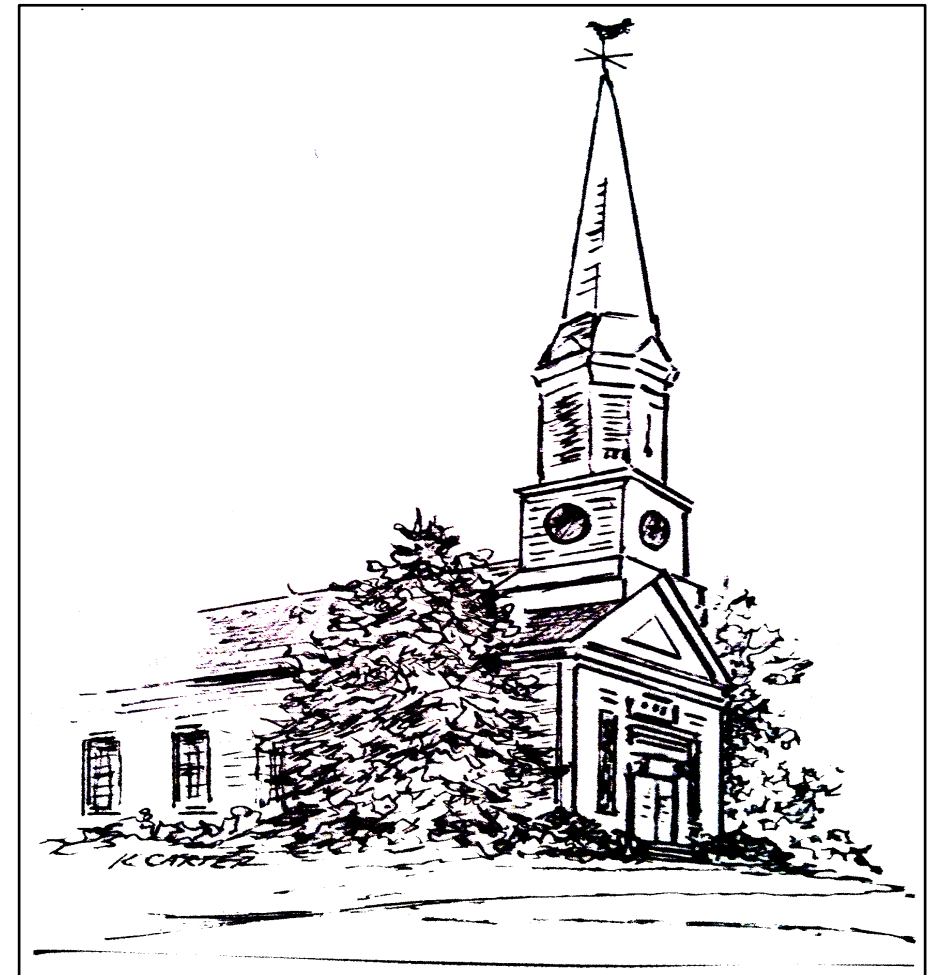
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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
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**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 7, 2024 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE "BE STILL MY SOUL"
by Jean Sibelius, arr. Cindy Berry

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)*
Light of the world, shine upon us and disperse the clouds of our selfishness, that we may reflect the power of the resurrection in our life together. Wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty and sickness, by selfishness, war, and greed, may the new creation in Jesus Christ appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of the one in whose 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** "I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT" No. 248

(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

ANTHEM "I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE" by Suzanne Toolan
Nathan Cox and Jim White, tenors

SCRIPTURE 1 John 1:1-2:2 N.T. 211 Betty Kehoe

SERMON Rev. Dan Hollis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS "I WILL SING OF MY REDEEMER"
by James McGranaham, arr. Cindy Berry

***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.**

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** "GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL" *(sing twice)* No. 296

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN Rev. Dan Hollis

POSTLUDE "BLESSED ASSURANCE"
by Phoebe P. Knapp, arr. Carol Tornquist

*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 appreciation of and to celebrate
Kathy McQueeney's leadership and light."*



THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, April 7th

10am Worship/Communion/Special Music by Nathan Cox and Jim White

Monday, April 8th

11:15am Creation Care Committee Meeting
 4pm White Pine Programs Workshop

Tuesday, April 9th

8:30am Shake It Up
 6:30pm Fellowship in Action

Wednesday, April 10th

8:30am Yoga
 6:30pm Assessors Meeting
 8am Interval Training
 9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom

Thursday, April 11th

6:30pm Deacons Meeting

Friday, April 12th

8am Zumba

Saturday, April 13th

8am Aerobics
 8:30am Christian Education Committee Meeting

Sunday, April 14th

10am Beach Clean Up
 9:45am Hymn Sing
 10am Worship
 11:15am Out to Lunch Bunch

Creation Care Committee Meeting: Sunday, April 7 in Pilgrim Room after worship. All are welcome to check it out. Just catching up and brain storming a bit. We need you.

Creation Care Committee: Beach Clean Up Saturday, April 13 at 9:30am on Long Sands Beach.

Fellowship in Action: Please join in the fun and fellowship of planning interesting activities for our church family and beyond, by attending our next meeting: Monday, April 8 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome! Refreshments provided.

White Pine Programs Workshop: White Pine Programs is a local organization that provides outdoor experiences to awaken curiosity, and cultivate caring relationships with self, community, and the natural world. They have agreed to run a workshop for First Parish members and friends on our grounds. It will include a meditative nature walk and nature sit. It will involve individual reflection and group discussion. All are welcome. Sunday, April 7th at 4pm-5:30pm. Meet outside Fellowship Hall. Questions contact Pastor Eric.

Green News/Tips: Confused about plastic bags and films? Visit www.bagandfilmrecycling.org to learn about recycling and disposing. Styrofoam disposal? Look to EPA's solid waste hierarchy: the 3 R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) Styrofoam can't compost, so we're left with waste to energy usage or landfilling it. As Styrofoam's disposability options are so low on the hierarchy, Maine's ban on many kinds of foam is particularly important. It removes more of this hard to manage material from the waste stream entirely. www.ecomaine.com



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



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