

**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.

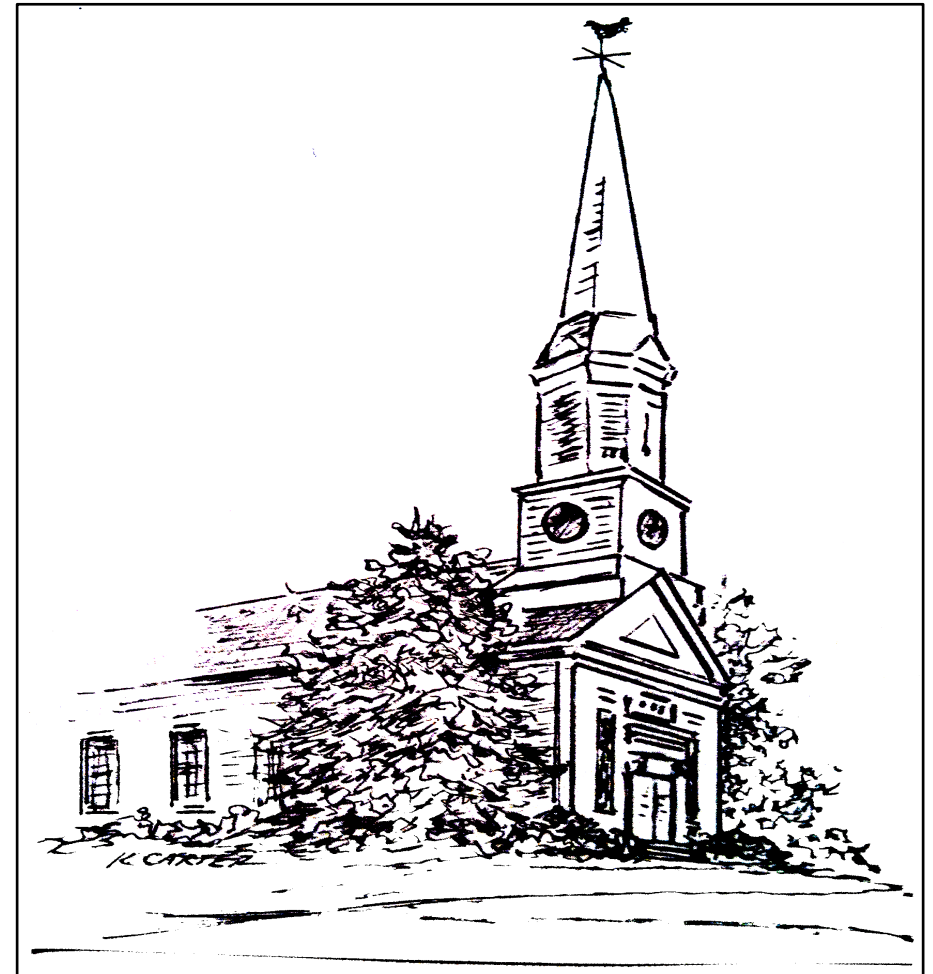
**Photos:** We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

**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.

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**First Parish Church  
Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 ~ 10AM WORSHIP  
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

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

**PRELUDE** Trumpet Procession Richard E. Frey  
“EVER FAITHFUL, EVER NEAR” Franklin Ritter

**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.)*

**GATHERING PRAYER** *(together)*  
**Author of Life, on this day of endings and beginnings we applaud the transmission of wisdom from one generation to the next, yet are awed by all that remains unknown. Encourage us always to dwell among those who savor beauty, advance community, respond with compassion and pray in the way Christ taught, saying....**

**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** “HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE” No. 323

**CONFIRMATION**  
*(Children ages 4 and up are invited to go to the church foyer to meet with their Sunday School teachers immediately following Confirmation.)*

**ANTHEM** "PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU" Philip M. Young (b. 1937)  
*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.*  
*Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*  
-- John 14:27

**First Parish Vocal Ensemble**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Rev. Dan Hollis

**SCRIPTURE** Acts 1:6-14 N.T. 102 Kit Anthony

**SERMON** “Passing the Baton” Rev. Eric Dupee

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS** "AVE MARIA" (“HAIL MARY, MOTHER OF GOD”) Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

*(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 James Burke  
*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** “HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION” *(verses 1-4 only)* No. 411

**CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN** Elise Chandler

**POSTLUDE** Recessional on “GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY” Phil Lehenbauer (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 my parents, Kim and Sis Stanwood from Hal Stanwood..*

**THIS WEEK**

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<b>Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup></b>	10am Worship/Confirmation 3pm Seacoast Community Chorus Spring Concert “One World, One Voice, One Song”
<b>Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	8:30am Shake It Up 6:30pm Church Council Meeting
<b>Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	8:30am Yoga
<b>Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Strength Training 9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom
<b>Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Zumba 5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (all voices)
<b>Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Aerobics
<b>Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10am Worship/Baptism/Handbell Choir and Sanctuary Choir-Special Music



**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*

**Order for Confirmation**  
Confirmation Class of 2023  
Sunday, May 21, 2023

*Following the questioning of the candidates, the congregation will have opportunities to respond:*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Do you believe in God?

**I believe in God.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

**PRAYER OF THE CONGREGATION**

Let us pray together.

**Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME**

Let us, the members of First Parish Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

**BENEDICTION**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Our Confirmands

**Christopher Anthony**

Kit Anthony, age 16, is a sophomore at YHS (York High School). He is active within school sports, cross-country, Spring Track and wrestling. (Wrestling happens to be his favorite.) Outside of school he is involved within Boy Scouts and the OA (Order of the Arrow), and enjoys every moment he can in the great outdoors, hiking, camping, fishing etc. He is proud to worship in the First Parish Church.

**James Burke**

James Burke, Clash of Clans co-leader, Town Hall 13. A very nice charming man that is willing to make friends. An active member in the town.

**Elise Chandler**

I am a senior in Wells High School, and will be attending Salve Regina University next fall with a major in psychology. I enjoy playing basketball and volleyball, and attending sports events. I also do multiple forms of art on the side.

**Bronson Eldredge**

I'm 15 years old and a freshman at York High School. I am a three-sport athlete (hockey, golf, and track). In my free time I love fishing and going to the beach.

**William Fagan**

I play on the JV baseball team. Starting pitcher/first base. I play basketball and football as well.

**John Goodell**

I have gone to First Parish Church since I was little. I am currently a freshman in high school. I enjoy winter activities like skiing as well as summer activities like going to the beach. I play sports like track-and-field and soccer.

**Logan Schrimper**

Hi. I'm Logan. I'm 16 years old and I enjoy reading. I am on the robotics team and I like to play video games. I also often spend time outside with neighbors.

*2022-2023 Class Mentors:* Joanne Myers and Kristin Schrimper



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**FAITH FEATURES**

**No First Wednesday Food Pantry Drive:** There will be no food pantry drive in June. We have been asked not to have one in June as it coincides with another food drive and they are well-stocked with food. We will start up again with our monthly collections in the fall.

**Fellowship in Action:** Berry picking on Friday, July 7 at 9am. We will gather as a group in front of Fellowship Hall before heading to the farm. After picking strawberries, we will head back to the church to savor their summer sweetness with shortcake and whipped cream. Delicious!! (Each person/family will likely have berries to take home for jam making or freezing.)  
Eric and Cathy McCulley [cmcculley74@gmail.com](mailto:cmcculley74@gmail.com) or 978-394-2950

**Green Tip/News:** There are companies out there that encourage people to learn how we can reduce our waste with non-toxic products for our homes and for our bodies that are refillable and reusable.

## ATTIC TREASURES SALE

**\*A RECYCLE & REUSE EVENT\***

**SATURDAY, JUNE 24**

**9am – 2pm**

### **EVERYONE WINS!**

**A Win for You:** This is an opportunity to organize and simplify your life and recycle.

**A Win for First Parish Church:** This event helps support our church and its missions.

**A BIG Win for Others:** The item you no longer need or have space for may be just the item that brings JOY to another! People LOVE coming to this event!

### **DROP OFF SCHEDULE**

**3 days per week for 3 weeks**

**DATES:** May 25 – June 10 (Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only)

**HOURS:** 9:30am – 11am

**WHERE:** Fellowship Hall lower level (entry is on the left side of Fellowship Hall)

### **SUGGESTED GENTLY USED ITEMS**

Home Decor items, wall hangings, glassware, china, lamps, antiques, collectables, jewelry, small furniture, etc. – you get the idea!

*(all items must be clean and in good condition.)*

**PLEASE NO:** Bedding, linens, clothing, picture frames, books, large furniture, stuffed animals, baby furniture, electronics or appliances.

*We cannot sell these items and have difficulty disposing of them.*

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