

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.

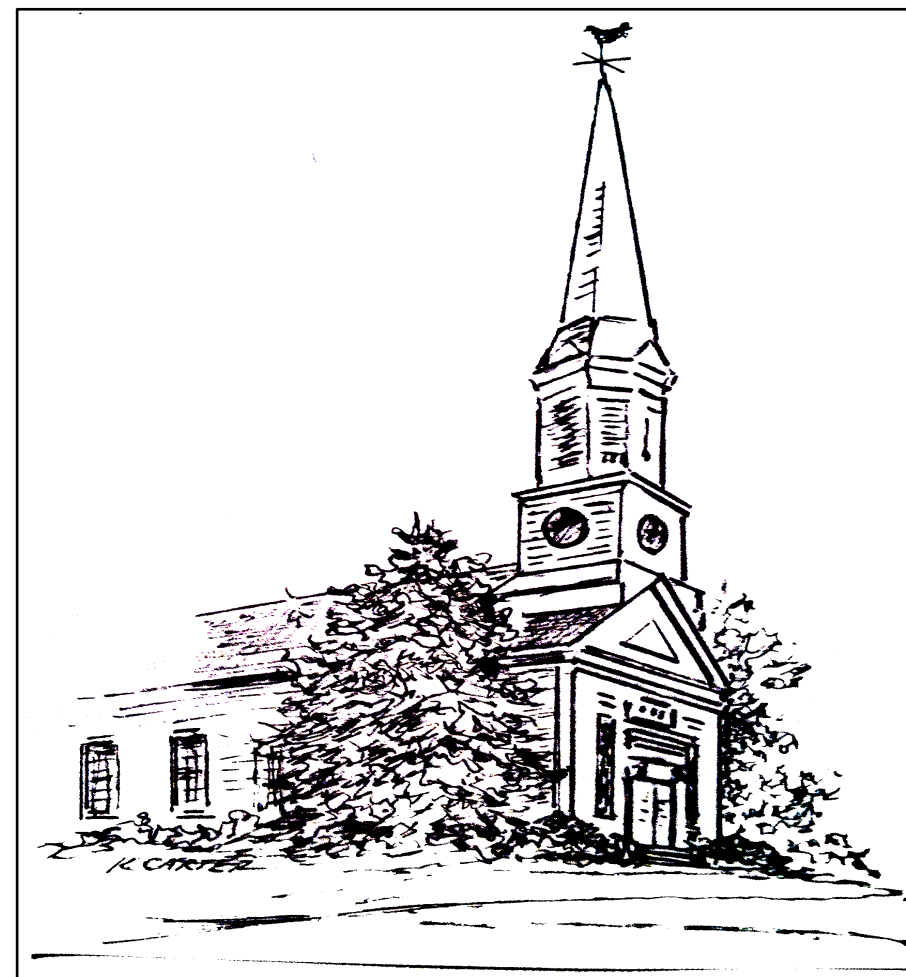
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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**

“This is the day that the lord made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 ~ 10AM WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Te Deum (“WE PAISE THEE, O GOD”)
Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1634-1704)
“O LOVE THAT CASTS OUT FEAR” (from *Cantata 45*)
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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)* Sherry McConnell
Like robins who make their way home, in the springtime, we return to you, O God. We approach, and the doors of your dwelling place swing wide to welcome all the peoples of the earth. Rejoice with us in your house of prayer: our home! It is here that we join our voices in prayer...

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** “JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE” No. 59

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 “THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS” Bradley Ellingboe (b. 1958)
*Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, let us grant pardon; where there is discord, unite our hearts;
where there is doubt, may we find faith; when we despair, give hope;
where there is darkness, give us light; where there is sadness, give us joy.
It is in giving that we receive; in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*
First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Matthew 18:21-35 N.T. 17 Sherry McConnell

SERMON “As We Forgive” Rev. Eric Dupee

OFFERING OUR GIFTS Hymn Prelude on *Rest*
("DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND, FORGIVE OUR FOOLISH WAYS!")
Arr., Rex Koury (b. 1911-2006)

(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** “O, HOW I LOVE JESUS” No. 109

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE Psalm 136: A Litany of Joy
Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

*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 by Eric and Cathy McCulley in loving memory of their parents
Bob, Betty, Paul, and Jane.*



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

FAITH FEATURES

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 17th	10am Worship 11:15am Town Hall Construction Update 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Monday, September 18th	8:30am Shake It Up
Tuesday, September 19th	8:30am Yoga
Wednesday, September 20th	8am Strength Training 9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom 7pm Faith 101
Thursday, September 21st	8am Zumba 5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Stewardship Committee Meeting 7pm Sanctuary Choir
Friday, September 22nd	8am Aerobics
Saturday, September 23rd	8:30am Pumpkin Delivery
Sunday, September 24th	10am Worship 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



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

The Pumpkin Patch: Pumpkins are coming! September 23 at 8:30am. Volunteers needed to unload the truck and in the Pumpkin Patch. The 10th Annual Pumpkin Patch will be open 7 days a week, for four weeks or until the pumpkins are sold. Any and all volunteers will be gratefully accepted. No experience necessary. Check your calendars now! Chris Briley, Richard Leigh, Bob and Joanne Myers

Sign Up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49ACAF23A6F85-2023#/> once you have reached the Sign Up Genius page, ignore the pop-ups ads from Google and ignore the button that allows you to Create a Sign Up. You do not need to Log In. Just go down to the sign up document and search for the time slots that you can work; then follow the prompts.

Daisy's Children: The mums decorating the church have been donated by Laura and Christopher Lindop for distribution to some of our homebound friends. Thanks to all who have participated in the Daisy's Children fundraiser.

Faith 101: Faith Formation for Adults: Wednesdays at 7pm. Get to know your faith better with these one-month classes led by Pastor Dan. This year there will be four self-contained units to choose from, each with a start and end date. Choose the units that work best for you, or come to them all!

Get to Know Your Bible (September-October) September 20, September 27, October 4, October 11

Get to Know God (October-November)

Get to Know Christ (January-February)

Get to Know Church (April-May)

Contact dan@firstparishyork.net if you're interested in joining us for "Get to Know Your Bible," starting September 20th at 7pm in Pastor Dan's office.

Inquirers Series: Visitors and guest are invited to two Inquirers Coffee and Conversations information sessions on October 8 from 11am-12noon or October 15 from 8:30am-9:30am. Contact the Parish office at office@firstparishyork.net or 207-363-3758 to RSVP.

Green Tip/News: BACK TO SCHOOL! Suggested reading assignments: "Why Recycling Isn't the Answer to the Plastic Pollution Problem" Kristian Sybera Scientific American 12/2022

"Plastic Recycling Doesn't Work and Will Never Work" Judith Enck and Jan Dell. The Atlantic Monthly 5/30/22 Food for thought



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