

THE BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

You are the body of Christ.

May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy.

May you have the eyes of Christ to see a world in need.

May you have the feet of Christ to bring good news.

Go in peace!

And God go with you.

POSTLUDE Hornpipe (from *Water Music*) G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

(Liturgy Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press. Posted on the Worship Elements page of the Ministry Matters website.)

Flowers are given in loving memory of our parents; Ralph Winslow and Bill and Jeanne Dunne from Steve and Phyllis Dunne.

WELCOME GUESTS! We are grateful you joined us in worship today at First Parish Church. Please fill in the "Invitation" card in our pew pocket, especially if you would like to receive our mid-week e-mail devotional message the "Pastor's Pen." Just drop it in the collection plate. If you have any questions, please introduce yourselves to the pastors as you leave the sanctuary or to a member of our Hospitality Team (wearing yellow name tags). Please join us in Fellowship Hall after worship for coffee and refreshments and meet our friendly fellow parishioners.

CHURCH SCHOOL INFO: All children come into church with your family. After the Children's Message, children will meet their teachers in the narthex. PreK-6th grade will be in the lower level classrooms of Fellowship Hall. After services, parents are asked to come to your child's classroom to meet their teacher and pick up your children. Please note that on Communion Sunday (first Sunday of the month), Grades 5 and 6 return to the sanctuary to participate in communion with the congregation.

TODAY'S GREETERS: Greeting you this morning are Gerry and Linda Bardwell.

COFFEE HOUR: Please join us for coffee hour after worship in Fellowship Hall hosted by the Open and Affirming Task Force.

PASTORAL CARE: We want to provide care for you always, and in particular we hope you will let us know if you or a family member are or will be hospitalized, so we can give you our care. York Hospital, if a patient requests, will call us directly. Due to hospital confidentiality regulations, we will know of your hospitalization only if you ask your family member or hospital staff to call us and let us know.

EXITING THE SANCTUARY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY. The front half of the sanctuary will exit to the front of the church through the two side doors. The back half of the sanctuary will exit to the back of the sanctuary and either out the side ramp, or the front doors of the church. The Deacons will help anyone in the lower level of the church exit out the back doors of the lower level.



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office@firstparishyork.net ♦ www.firstparishyork.net



First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

Welcome

Following the way of Jesus, we aspire to *authentically invite, courageously include, and generously serve* all with compassion and grace.

Following the way of Jesus, we celebrate *inspirational worship; create life-changing experiences* for children, youth, families, and individuals; and practice *meaningful congregational care*.

While *respecting our diversity, we courageously advocate for justice and mercy, and intentionally respond to the needs* of our community and the world.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018 ~ 9:30AM WORSHIP

** Please stand if you are able. All people are invited to read bold face liturgy.*

PRELUDE Two Hymn Settings for Earth Day Gordon Young (1919-1989)
“ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL” (*Royal Oak*)
“FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH” (*Dix*)

THE INVITATION God’s grace, mercy, and peace be with you.
And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Pastor Anna V. Copeland

We gather in the name of the risen Lord.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

We gather as sisters and brothers of the resurrected one.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

We gather to share our faith and to worship God.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

We gather to proclaim the good news of Easter!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

***OPENING HYMN** “GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY” No. 569

***HOSPITALITY MOMENT**

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”
(*Please greet one another with a sign of God’s peace.*)

GATHERING PRAYER Pastor Dan Hollis

**God of the resurrection, we gather this morning
as a community of believers. We come with joy to greet one another
and to tell again and again the amazing news: Christ is risen!
Love is victorious over death! You have given us new life
in the name of your Son! May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming
be a testimony to the power of your love to make us a new creation
as a community of faith. We pray in the name of the risen Christ...**

THE LORD’S PRAYER (using “debts”)
Our Father...forgive us our debts...Amen

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANTHEM “LORD OF ALL” R. Lee Gilliam (1902-1984)
*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies.
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*
—F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)
Sweet Spirit and Men’s Ensemble

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN “DAY BY DAY” No. 449

SCRIPTURE Acts 16:16-35 N.T. 119 Karen Peterson

SERMON “BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID” Pastor Anna V. Copeland

OFFERING

Almighty God, You have given us the gift of eternal life in the risen Christ. May the glory light of the resurrection shine within us forevermore, and may we give ourselves wholly to Your use for Your glory in Christ’s name. Amen

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “ALL THE EARTH REJOICE” (from Vivaldi’s *Four Seasons*)
Arr., Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

All the earth rejoice, join with heart and soul and voice.

O sing praise to Almighty God.

We are God’s people, the sheep of God’s own flock.

Praise to God who made us. Praise God alone for evermore.

Sweet Spirit and Men’s Ensemble

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** No. 34

God of mercy, by Your creation and care we live. Bless these offerings that through them we may nurture others as You have nurtured us. May these gifts from the work of our hands become the work of Your hands in this church, this community, and the wider world of Your children. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** “CALLED AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST’S SERVICE” No. 581

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, April 22nd	9:30am Worship 10:45am Coffee Hour-Open and Affirming Bible Study-Rev. Alice Kerr Laird 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Monday, April 23rd	8:30am Zumba 2pm Stewardship Committee Meeting 5pm Mission Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 24th	8:30am Yoga 5-7pm Table of Plenty 7pm Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 25th	8:30am Aerobics 9am Women's Bible Study 5pm Word of Life-Bible Study
Thursday, April 26th	8:30am Aerobics 4:30pm Willing Voices Rehearsal 5pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal 5:30pm Thursday Evening Worship 6pm Handbells Choir Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Confirmation Class
Friday, April 27th	8:30am Zumba
Saturday, April 28th	7:30am 7-12 Youth Group-Pilgrim Lodge Clean Up
Sunday, April 29th	9:30am Worship/Mission Moment 5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Leading Worship Today:

Rev. Dr. Anna V. Copeland

Rev. Dan Hollis

Staff

Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries

Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate

Janet Cassidy, Church School Coordinator

First Parish Church Lay Leaders

Jan Jonas, Moderator

Thom Kearns, Vice Moderator

Ray Hamlin, Treasurer

Susan Mancinelli, Clerk



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SPRING FAITH FEATURES

Bible Study and Coffee Hour hosted by the Open and Affirming Task Force today after worship in Fellowship Hall.

Please welcome Rev. Alice Kerr Laird, an ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America who will lead our study today on homosexuality and the Bible. She served three churches prior to becoming Associate to the Bishop of the New England ELCA.

Please bring a pew Bible with you to Fellowship Hall. We are happy to return them for you following the study.

Sunday, April 29

The ONA Task Force will present the Open and Affirming (Proposed) Covenant that has been discussed for some time. We will highlight this faith-based process and discuss outcomes: what is included in the proposal and the rationale for it.

Discussion will follow - Coffee hour in Fellowship Hall.

VOLUNTEER

First Parish Church volunteers report for duty
this Thursday from 2pm-4pm at York

Community Services Thrift Store. If you are interested there is a sign up sheet at
the Opportunity Table in Fellowship Hall. April, May and June are already filled!

Thank you.

**We are obligated to provide 1 or 2 volunteers every
first Thursday of the month from 2PM-4PM.**

Do it with a friend! Try it out!

Sign up sheet is at the Opportunity Table in Fellowship Hall.

Linda Drew - p.l.drew79@me.com or 207-351-8141





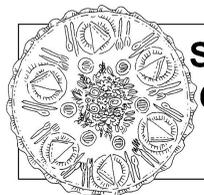
Can we be of assistance...rides to appointments, food shopping, spring cleanup, broken screen door repair? Your church family is waiting to help!! Call the office and ask! 207-363-3758.
Mission@Home team

**JOIN US
for Thursday Evening Worship
5:30pm - 6:50pm**

Informal, Relational, Inspirational - Food for Body and Soul

Join us for a simple meal followed by worship on Thursday evenings in Fellowship Hall. You may choose to come for supper and stay for worship or join us when you can for upbeat, casual, meaningful worship beginning at 6pm. If you would like to sing with the Willing Voices during worship you are invited to attend their 4:30pm rehearsal on Thursdays.

5:30pm - 5:50pm Supper Served
5:50pm - 6pm Music
6pm - 6:50pm Worship



**Supper
Club**

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
FOX'S LOBSTER HOUSE
Wednesday, May 23rd at 6:00 PM**

Dinner Selections are: Fresh Maine Lobster, Maple Glazed Salmon, Baked Fresh Haddock, Golden Fried Shrimp, or Petite Filet Mignon.

SURPRISE, Fun & Fabulous Entertainment!

Only \$25 per person plus \$5 suggested gratuity
Please pay with cash or personal check at Fox's

For Reservations and Dinner Selection

contact the Parish Office
207-363-3758
office@firstparishyork.net



Pilgrim Lodge

Maine Conference, United Church of Christ

Pilgrim Lodge Opening

An intergenerational group (youth, families and adults) is forming to help with opening UCC's beautiful Pilgrim Lodge, West Gardiner, Maine. Some folks going Friday, April 27; some going Saturday April 28 to spend the day.

Come along!

**Contact Philip Drew at 207-351-8141 or church office at 207-363-3758.
Thank you for your enthusiastic response!!**



**Scholarships
Available**

**Ronald A. Parsons Scholarship and
Diaconate Scholarship
High School Seniors
who will be attending college in the fall and
Youth who attend Pilgrim Lodge Summer Camp.**

**Contact the Church Office for applications
207-363-3758
office@firstparishyork.net
DEADLINE FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018**

Revival Show featuring our very own Joyce Andersen!

All are invited to see Joyce Andersen perform her "common-grounding, freedom-sounding, joy-abounding music" at the West End Studio Theatre in Portsmouth on Friday, May 11 at 8pm! While she is performing at this intimate theatre 3 times during Mother's Day Weekend, Women on the Move is organizing a trip to the Friday night performance. \$20 adult admission. FMI about Joyce and her "rogue violin and soulful side-kick guitar," go to www.joyscream.com.

Anyone interested in the Friday 8pm performance can carpool from Fellowship Hall at 7:15pm or meet at the theatre (959 Islington St.) at 7:45pm. FMI about going as a group on Friday night, contact kathymcqueeney@hotmail.com or 603-580-1184