

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.

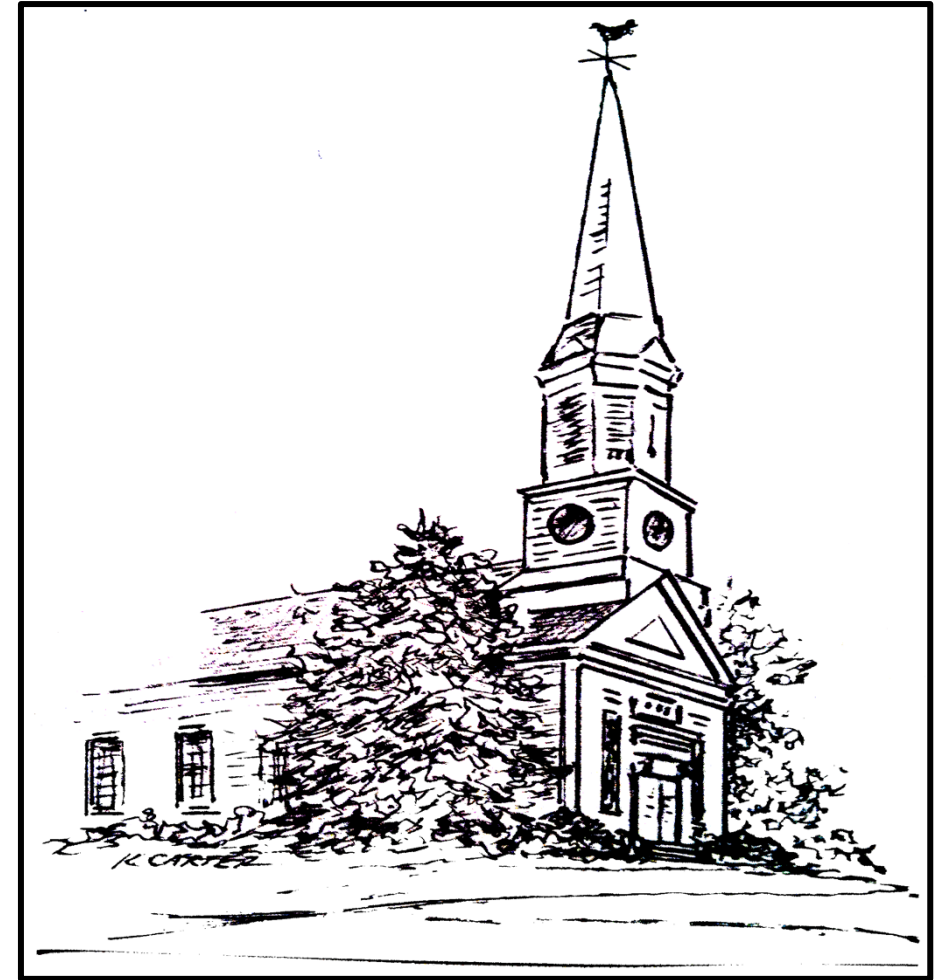
Photos: We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

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**

“But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:31

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025 ~ 10:00AM WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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

PRELUDE Variations on “ST. PATRICK” Arr., Michael Joseph
Sanctus (“HOLY IS THE LORD”) Craig A. Penfield

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Eric Dupee
Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land;
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm.

CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

GATHERING PRAYER *(together)* Jeff McConnell
O God, there are many things that stand between us and the life you intend us to lead. A lack of courage chills the ground of our being. A snow-covering of indifference keeps problems out of sight. A sense of self-importance allows for a dormancy of faith. As we worship, God, thaw us out. Help us to bloom as persons nourished by the love of Christ 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** “O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED” No. 458

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES
(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 “GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS” Arr., Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!*
— Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960)
First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE Philippians 3:17-4:1 N.T. 175 Jeff McConnell

SERMON “The Way of the Cross” Rev. Eric Dupee

CHOIR RESPONSE “SANCTUARY” No. 482

OFFERING OUR GIFTS “A LENTEN PSALM” (Lenten Meditation) Craig Penfield

***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** “IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY” No. 264

CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE Recessional on “IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY” *(Rathbun)*
Arr., Frederick Swann (1931-2022)

*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 Kathy McQueeney in loving memory of her mother Helen McQueeney.



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FAITH FEATURES

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, March 16th	10am Worship/Lent II 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Monday, March 17th	8am Cardio & Tone
Tuesday, March 18th	8:30am Yoga 10am Pastor's Class 6:30pm Pastor's Class-Zoom
Wednesday, March 19th	8am Cardio/Strength 9:30 Wednesday Bible Study
Thursday, March 20th	8am Aerobics 4:30pm Stewardship Committee Meeting 5pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal
Friday, March 21st	8am Zumba
Saturday, March 22nd	9am Men's Retreat
Sunday, March 23rd	10am Worship/Lent III 11:30am Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Leading Worship Today:

Rev. Eric Dupee

Staff

Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries

Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate

Trey Selenga, Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator

First Parish Church Lay Leaders

Nancy Stevens, Moderator

Jonn Schrimper, Vice Moderator

Ray Hamlin, Treasurer

Susan Mancinelli, Clerk

Coffee Hour: Please come to Fellowship Hall, directly across the one-way road, for refreshments and conversation. All are welcome.

Pastor's Class: The pastor's class will start up on Tuesday 3/18. The focus will be on "spiritual resilience." Spiritual resilience can be defined as the ability to maintain a positive sense of self and purpose, even during challenging times, by drawing strength from one's beliefs, values, and spiritual practices. There will be an in-person gathering from 10-11am in my office. There will also be a Zoom option at 6:30pm. I'd love for you to join in on one or the other. Just show up for the morning class. Please contact Pastor Eric for the Zoom link eric@firstparishyork.net.

Men's Retreat: Please gather with the men of the church on March 22, 2025 in Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and spiritual exploration led by the Rev. Linda Hirst. For more info contact Pastor Eric. Sign up during coffee hour or contact the office office@firstparishyork.net or 207-363-3758

Dine with Nine: Sign ups for hosts and diners for Dine with Nine has begun. Contact Judy Goodwin at 978-771-3455 or ink0711@gmail.com. if you would like to host a dinner or lunch/brunch.

Pilgrim Lodge: HEADS' UP! Clean Up Weekend April 25 and 26.

We are planning to go to the Spring Cleanup Weekend. Friday morning through Saturday evening. Looking for skilled and "skill-challenged" volunteers! Always rewarding and fun! Interested? Philip Drew at p.l.drew79@me.com or 207-351-8141 **Details in March!**

Mark your Calendars for the Fourth Annual Birthday Bash! The date will be Sunday, April 27 in Fellowship Hall after the church service. This is a fun time for a brunch (and cake!) and a chance to celebrate your birthday month with others in our church family. Look for more details to come! All are welcome. If you have questions in the meantime, contact Nan Roberts of Judy Goodwin.

Planet Aid Textile Bins: Time for spring cleaning!! Drawers, closets, garages, basements, etc. We are asking you to bring your old linens, towels, small rugs, curtains, etc. to these bins. We have one short month.

The bright yellow Planet Aid bin will NOT be on campus this spring, but those bins have sprung up all over our area, for map see www.planetaid.org/find-a-bin.