

\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

No. 34

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

\*CLOSING HYMN "ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL" No. 163

**THE BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

**POSTLUDE** Recessional on "CHRISTIANS, WAKE, SALUTE THE HAPPY MORN!"  
Hans Arnold Metzger (1913-1977)

*Flowers given in loving memory of Thi Nicole Sanabia Wilson,  
daughter of Nancy and Joe Wilson.*

*The flowers are given in memory of Grace and Chet Trafton, Marian and John Beals,  
Earl and Alice Smith and the Albion K. Plaisted Family by Earl B. Smith, Jr. and Families.*

**Welcome Guests!** We're glad you're here. You can learn more about us via the brochure in your pew back or at [FirstParishYork.net](http://FirstParishYork.net). You're invited to enjoy refreshments at "coffee hour" in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

**Hearing Assistance:** Devices are available. Please ask a greeter to provide one.

**Nursery Care:** Nursery care provided downstairs for children 4 years old and under.

**Pastoral Care:** If you'd like to meet with a pastor, please call the office at 363-3758 Monday – Friday 9am-2pm. For emergency pastoral care after office hours and on weekends, you may reach one of the pastors by calling 207-358-9776. The pastors are available to make hospital visits and we invite you to let us know if you or a family member would like a visit. Due to hospital confidentiality regulations, the hospital will not inform us unless you ask them to do so.

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

**Restrooms:** Restrooms are located on the lower level of this building. Handicap accessible restrooms are across the way in Fellowship Hall. For access during the worship service, please see a Deacon.

**Sunday School:** All youth ages 4 through 7<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to attend Sunday School. After the Children's Message, youth meet up with their teachers in the church foyer. Together, students and teachers make their way to the Fellowship Hall classrooms. After worship, parents are asked to sign out and pick up children in their classrooms. Guests are welcome to attend Sunday School and 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 youth make their way over.



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



**Vision**

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

**Mission**

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, DECEMBER 1, 2019 ~ 9:30AM WORSHIP  
COMMUNION/FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (CANDLE OF HOPE)**

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

**PRELUDE** “WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING” Paul Manz (1919-2009)  
“SLEEPERS, WAKE! A VOICE IS CALLING” J.S. Bach (1685-1750)  
**Shawn McCartee, piano**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION**

*(Candles will be lit as a sign of Christ's light in the world.)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsive)* Pastor Dan Hollis

People of God, come in and find rest and refreshment for your soul.

**We enter God’s house, attentive to God’s word and way.**

Come, quiet the busyness of the secular world and settle into the sacred season.

**With faith and hope, we eagerly anticipate the reality of God’s promises!**

**\*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.)*

**\*OPENING HYMN** “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL” No. 154

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(unison)* Rev. Estelle Margarones

Most high God, we confess that we feel excitement that Christmas is near, but we also experience a jumble of other emotions. We’re missing some loved ones. We’re worried about finances. We’re already overcommitting and over indulging. Strengthen our faith, we pray, so that we may again be childlike believer trusting in your goodness and faithfully hoping that peace will ultimately prevail on earth. We ask this in the name of your son Jesus, who shared this prayer with us...

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** *(unison)*

**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.**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE**

Michele, Christopher and Danielle Anthony

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Pastor Dan Hollis

**ANTHEM** “AWAKE! SING GLORIA!” Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959))

*Sleepers, awake! Sing “Gloria Deo!”*

*Come see the King of glory.*

*Come see the One who’ll be born to save us all.*

*Praise Him! Come hear the song the angels sing.*

*Come and adore the heavenly King!*

*Gloria! Awake! Sing gloria!*

**First Parish Sanctuary Choir**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 2:1-5 O.T. page 591 Carolyn Dupre

**SERMON** Rev. Estelle Margarones

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS** “WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING”  
Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

**CELEBRATING 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. We drink from the cup individually as a symbol of our uniqueness. *(We serve grape juice, not wine and have gluten free crackers available in the middle of each tray.)*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Lord God, through this meal, we recognize and celebrate our union with you, our union with each other, and our union with Christians all over the world. We are grateful that we are always invited to your table. May this ceremonial meal renew us in spirit. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

9:30am Worship/Advent I/Communion  
11am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal  
5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (full)  
7pm Lessons and Carols Choir Rehearsal

Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

8am Zumba  
8:30am Yoga  
5-7pm Table of Plenty  
4pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting  
7pm Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Zumba  
9:30am Women's Bible Study  
5pm Conversations on the Bible  
7pm Search Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Aerobics  
9am Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting  
7pm Messiah-Sing at Dover First Parish Church

Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Aerobics  
5:30pm Youth Group-grades 5/6  
7pm Youth Group-grades 7/8

Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

9am-12noon Wreaths & Greens and More Sale  
4:30pm Festival of Lights Parade  
5pm York Schools Youth Concert

Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

9:15am Christmas Carol Sing  
9:30am Worship/Advent II

### Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Leading Worship Today:

Rev. Estelle Margarones

Pastor 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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**FAITH FEATURES**

**Wreaths, Greens & More Sale:** Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12noon. Help needed December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> making and selling. There will be a handcrafts table again this year. If you sew, quilt, knit, hook, make things from wood, or any other craft, please consider donating. For more information contact Susan Mancinelli-Crafts Table at 351-8641 or [sman1234@twc.com](mailto:sman1234@twc.com). Martha King-Wreaths at 363-7344 or [marthasgarden207@gmail.com](mailto:marthasgarden207@gmail.com).

**Calling All Bakers:** Please consider baking some Christmas goodies (cookies, cakes, pies, muffins, candy) to be sold as part of the annual Wreaths, Greens and More Sale on December 7 (drop-off December 6). Sign up at the Opportunity Table or contact Linda Blake at [lblake50@gmail.com](mailto:lblake50@gmail.com).

**Christmas Caroling:** Please join us as we go Christmas Caroling to Durgin Pines on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> and Sentry Hill on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Both nights we will meet at 5:15 in the front lobby of each place and begin caroling to the residents at around 5:30 pm. Santa hats, caroling books and cards to hand out will be provided. No need to rsvp but if you have any questions contact Nate Cox at 207-216-7005

**Helping Through Loose Change:** York Community Services Association will be the recipient of your loose change collected during the month of December. The collection boxes are located in the narthex.

**Book Stipend:** 1<sup>st</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester College Students who are members of First Parish Church are eligible for a "one time" book stipend from the Diaconate. Applications available in the Parish Office and Opportunity Table or email the office at [office@firstparishyork.net](mailto:office@firstparishyork.net) Deadline December 13, 2019

**Merry Tuba Christmas:** Nonantum Resort ballroom in Kennebunkport. 30-40 Tubas and Euphoniums serenade us with Christmas Carols. Sunday, December 8 at 3PM-4PM Carpooling from First Parish at 1:45PM. FREE admission. Interested? Contact Linda Drew 207/351/8141 or [p.l.drew79@me.com](mailto:p.l.drew79@me.com)

**Weekly Creation Care Tip:** Consider alternatives to traditional holiday cards. Consider e-cards or even making the connection with a phone call. Save paper, reduce waste, save energy, and you'll have the joy of knowing you're making a difference when sharing holiday good news. There's always a chance to be a role model!

(Source: Techradar.com, <http://bit.ly/FreeECards>)