

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. 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 7th 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.



180 York Street, York, Maine 03909 ♦ 207-363-3758
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First Parish Church
Congregational
United Church of Christ

Welcome

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, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 ~ 9:30AM WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Processional on “WESTMINSTER ABBEY” Robert Wetzler (b. 1932)
“GOD IS A SPIRIT” W. S. Bennett (1816-1875)

THE INVITATION God’s grace, mercy, and peace be with you. Pastor Dan Hollis
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)*

Our help is in the name of the Holy One, who made heaven and earth.

God’s love has poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us.

God has brought people of covenant from the land of bondage into freedom.

**Jesus came preaching good news to the poor, proclaiming release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind, liberating those who are oppressed, and
proclaiming the year of God’s favor.**

Come, let us worship God!

***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** “GOD IS HERE!” *(verses 1 and 4 only)* No. 1

GATHERING PRAYER *(unison)*

God of faithful surprises, throughout the ages you have made known your love and power in unexpected ways and places. May we daily perceive the joy and wonder of your abiding presence and offer our lives in gratitude for our redemption, in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Hollis

ANTHEM “A PSALM OF HOPE AND STRENGTH” Joseph M. Martin (b. 1959)
*I will lift my eyes unto the hills. Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord my God. I will trust in God alone,
the maker of heaven and earth. The Lord Jehovah never slumbers.
The Lord will never let you stumble. He will keep you safe from all harm.
God will keep you in your coming and your going for evermore. Amen.*

—Based on Psalm 121

First Parish Sanctuary Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 65:17-25 O.T. page 655

SERMON

Pastor Dan Hollis

STEWARDSHIP IN SONG *(see insert)*

All are invited to sing along to the chorus!

OFFERING OUR GIFTS Andante Religioso (from Sonata No. 4)
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

***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** “O DAY OF PEACE” No. 539

THE BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE Bachiana Gordon Young (1919-1998)

*The flowers are given in loving memory of
Virginia Russell Purrington in honor of her life and her 94th birthday
from her family.*

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, November 17th

9:30am Worship
11am Men's Ensemble Rehearsal
5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Monday, November 18th

8am Zumba
6pm Investor/Assessors Meeting

Tuesday, November 19th

8:30am Yoga
5-7pm Table of Plenty
7pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, November 20th

8:30am Zumba
9:30am Women's Bible Study
11am Book Group-York Public Library
5pm Conversations on the Bible
7pm Search Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 21st

8:30am Aerobics
4pm Nominating Committee Meeting
5pm Sweet Spirit Rehearsal
6pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 22nd

Sunday, November 24th

8:30am Aerobics
9:30am Worship
10:45am Thanksgiving Dinner of Gratitude
1pm Youth Group-grades 9-12
5pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



Ministers

All the Members of the Congregation

Leading Worship Today:

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

November Book Group: Join us to discuss *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, Wednesday, November 20th from 11 AM-12 Noon in the Kennebunk Room at the York Public Library. It is recommended to read the book in advance of our meeting. For more info, contact Pastor Dan at 363-3758.

Wreaths and Greens: On December 7 we will have a handcrafts table again this year. If you sew, quilt, knit, hook, make things from wood, or any other craft, please consider donating an item or items to this year's Wreaths and Greens and More event. For more information contact Susan Mancinelli at 351-8641 or sman1234@twc.com.

Gratitude Sunday is November 24: At worship when you bring forward your pledges, time and talent forms and offering envelopes please also bring forward non perishable food items to be given to the Food Pantry. If you haven't received an estimate of giving card and time and talent form in the mail and want to participate in either, please contact the office or ask a Deacon at worship for those forms. If you are willing and able please carry out a bag or two of the food items to the YCSA Food Pantry van after the service. Then come to the free Gratitude Luncheon in Fellowship Hall.

Harvest Table: The Flower Committee is asking for donations for the Harvest Table on Sunday, November 24th. Pumpkins, gourds, fresh vegetables and anything else that seems suitable. Everything is donated to the food pantry or used in donation baskets to the community after Sunday service. Donations can be left in the Parish Office Monday-Friday 9am-2pm or in the drop box outside the Parish House office door. Thank you!

Please Save the Date: Tuesday, November 26 at 7pm is the Celebration of Praise and Thanksgiving at First Parish.

Weekly Creation Care Tip: Change your holiday shopping strategy. As the holiday shopping season gets under way, consider a card or donation to a cause that has meaning to the gift recipient. Not only will you reduce waste and save energy (of every kind!); in the case of a donation, you will contribute to an organization doing good work in the world. (BONUS! Use this idea for gifts you don't really want to buy, and obligation turns into elation knowing you're making a difference in a couple of great ways.)



I am the way... John 14:6

WAYS & MEANS: THE WAY OF TRUST

When we read of Zacchaeus seeking Jesus (Luke 19:1-10), we need to realize that it too was a polarized world. Will the reign of God take over the reign of Caesar? Zacchaeus was one of those people who lived in both worlds. Balancing an allegiance to both Rome and Jerusalem, he is like those who straddle worlds of health and ill-health or those who yearn for mercy while maintaining codes of purity.

Two things often happen to out-of-place or marginalized people. One is that they stop trying to live in both worlds convinced that no new world is possible. Or, they wring all the joy out of a new world making guilt the path. Either path will wear you out.

Zacchaeus offers a different way of living in two different if not conflicting worlds. He throws caution to the wind and embraces this dual status with abandon.

Zacchaeus is up a tree trying to get a new perspective on his reality. The world as it is surrounds him, but he is being beckoned to participate in a world as it should be.

We live compromised lives. CO₂ levels are changing our environment and still we drive. We need to be on the path that Zacchaeus is on. Up a tree or not - neither immobilized by fear or intimidated by guilt, living in one world yet guided by the one that is emerging.

Make your pledge today to this community of faith, but also pledge to live towards the coming reign of God and not by draining the last drop of life from this one. With Jesus, you have a place in God's household. Follow Zacchaeus down the tree and claim it.

"Today salvation has come to this house."

Sing to the Tune of "The Garden Song"
("Inch by Inch, Row by Row")

CHORUS

Step by step, row by row
Gonna watch our pledges grow
With our singing high and low
And the bells and chimes resound

Step by step, and happily
Think of all that we can be
In our faith and ministry
And our church on fertile ground

VERSE 1

Bible study, book groups too
We are made of dreams come true
Pray together, me and you
'Cause our faith in God is strong

Mission outings, old and young
Reaching out to those unsung
Caring till our work is done
'Cause our history is long

CHORUS

(Congregation join in)

VERSE 2

Cre - a - tion Care Co - mmittee
Ta - ble of Plen n ty
Youth groups, church school, gaiety
All these ways in which we share

Plant your rows, straight and long
Season with a prayer and song
Our church family makes us strong
When we give her loving care

CHORUS

VERSE 3

Faith in God and ministry
Faith in you and faith in me
We together have the key
To our life long faith-filled search

Old and young in favorite pew
Gazing round at me and you
All the work yet still to do
In our garden we call church

CHORUS

