Riverbend United Church
Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

January 12, 2025

Baptism of Jesus

We Gather Together

Prelude — Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgment

Introit — *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New* — MV 115

Call to Worship *(Celebrate God's Presence)* — Jennifer Tupper, Lay Leader

One: All who thirst, come to the water and drink deeply of these living streams.

All: Come, all who are weary; come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

One: As the waters of the Jordan washed over Jesus, so the Holy Spirit washes over you and me.

All: Love divine emerges, descends, beckons and renews us. May we give thanks for new life.

Opening Prayer *(In Unison) (Celebrate God's Presence)*

Creator Spirit,
moving over the waters, you renew our baptism.
God of the flood, you bring newness across the earth.
Holy Spirit, Jordan dove, you came upon Jesus;
descend now upon us.
Voice from heaven, call us by name.
We are your beloved. Amen.

*Opening Hymn — *Come Let Us Sing* — VU 222

Children's Time — Krystal Manuel

Hymn — *River* vss. 1-2 — MV 3

Children are invited forward for a special time. After the hymn, children grades K-6 can go downstairs for Sunday School. Parents with littler ones are welcome in the Family Room adjacent to the sanctuary where the service can be seen and heard.

Special Appreciation — *Introducing our* Advent Reflections *Writers*

We Listen for God's Ongoing Word

Scripture Readings — Isaiah 43: 1-3a
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Anthem

Reflection — "Beloved" — Rev. V. Oden

*Hymn of Response — *I Was There …* — VU 644

We Share In Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Response — *O God, Hear our Prayer* — VU 948

Silent Prayer

Prayer of the People — "Living Water, Source of Life" *(Winter)* — VU 645

We Offer our Gifts and our Lives

Offering Our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

*Hymn *Like a Healing Stream vss. 1-3* MV 144

*Benediction *(Celebrate God's Presence)*

One: May the blessing of God, fountain of living water, flow within us as a river of life.

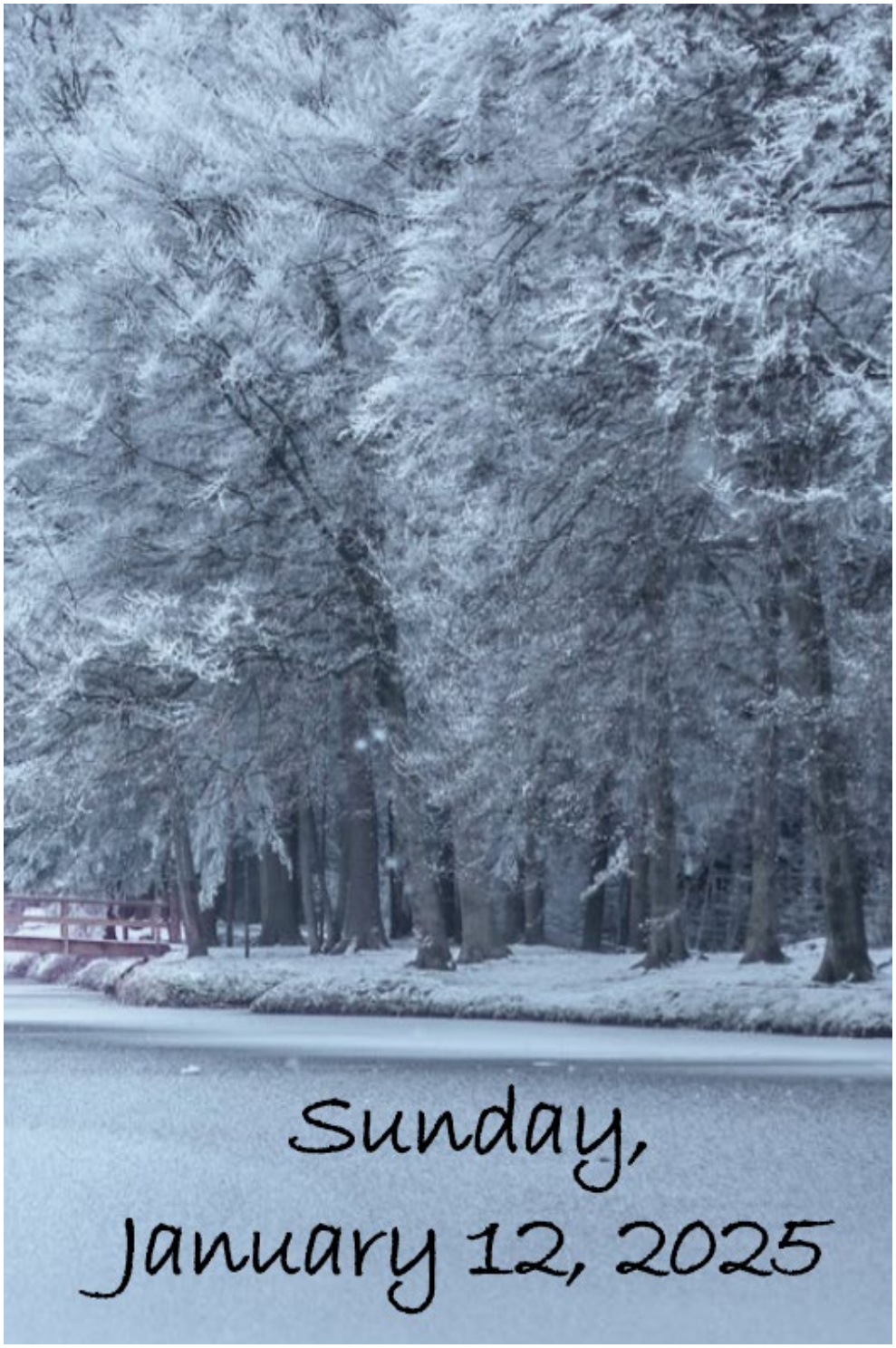
All: May we drink deeply of her wisdom. May we know our true thirst is always quenched. May we go into the world being refreshed and refreshing in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*Musical Benediction *Like a Healing Stream vs. 4* MV 144

*Postlude Sherry Steele

Riverbend United Church Welcomes You

If you are new with us we offer you a special welcome.

Please feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbours in the pews or to our minister, Valerie. If you fill out a Welcome Card in the narthex (foyer) we will send you a weekly email with upcoming events.

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