Riverbend United Church
Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

November 1, 2026

All Saints' Day

Communion Sunday

We Gather Together

Prelude — Sherry Steele

Welcome — Rev. Valerie Oden

The Life and Work of the Church

Introit — *Spirit Open My Heart* — MV 79

Call to Worship — Nathan Schoenhardt, Lay Leader

One: Come, let us gather within the great cloud of witnesses that surrounds us.

All: We honour the ancestors, activists, and loved ones who paved the path of love.

One: May the lingering echoes of their courage inspire our pursuit of justice today.

All: In remembering those who have gone before, we are re-membered together as one.

*Heritage Hymn — *For All the Saints* — VU 705

After this hymn, children grades K-6 can go downstairs. They will return for Communion. Youth can remain in worship today. Toddlers and infants are welcome in the Family Room (behind the piano) where the service can be seen and heard and a volunteer will assist you.

We Listen for the Spirit

Scripture Reading — Revelation 7: 9-17; Matthew 5: 1-12

Anthem — *Never A Step Will You Walk Alone* *(Choplin)*

Reflection — "The Communion of Saints" — Rev. V. Oden

*Hymn of Response — *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery* — VU 121
Vss. 1, 2, 3, 5

Naming the Saints

Prayer

Hymn — *One Bread, One Body* — VU 467
Chorus, Vs. 1, Chorus

We Share in Communion

Please see Insert

We Go Forth to Serve

Invitation to Offering Our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the foyer. 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 — *I See a New Heaven* — *vss. 1-2* — *VU 713*

*Benediction

Postlude — Sherry Steele

**Indicates you are invited to stand as able*

***VU** refers to the red hard bound hymnal, Voices United*
***MV** refers to the small spiral bound hymnal, More Voices*

Welcome to Riverbend United Church!

We're glad you're here. If you're new with us, please feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbour in the pews and fill out a **Welcome Card** in the narthex (foyer) so we can get to know you. We send a weekly email with upcoming events and ministry highlights.

Note:

During the sermon, you'll be invited to write the names of the Saints who have shaped your life on the card in the worship bulletin. If you bring the card forward for Communion, it will be placed on the "Tree of Saints." If you are joining us online, place the name(s) in the live chat and a card will be made for you.

The *Tree of Saints* will be among us until Christmas Eve, first in the Narthex and then in the Chapel.

Christianity 101: Questions worth Exploring 9:30 a.m. Sundays

- **November 22 — The Bible:** What is it, and how do we read it today?
- **November 29 — Jesus:** Who was he, and why does he matter?
- **December 6 — God:** What do we mean when we talk about God?

Have a question you've always wanted to ask? Send it in ahead of time! Your questions will help shape our conversations. You can submit a question to Valerie or place it anonymously in the designated basket in the narthex (foyer).

Planning to come? Please sign-up in the narthex or notify the office. Feel free to just show up as well. Come curious. Leave with a few new ideas, some good questions, and perhaps a desire to keep exploring. Held in the Chapel, past the elevator.

***Online option**-- do you prefer a Zoom version of this class? Held Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning Nov. 25. Email valerie@riverbendunited.org if you're interested in that option.*

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All Saints Day
Communion Sunday

November 1, 2026
10:30 a.m.

Communion Liturgy
Liturgy by Alydia Smith (adapted)

God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.
Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Source of life, you created the heavens, the earth,
and all that is in them.

Thank you for the wonders of creation.

You lived among us as a teacher, healer, and friend,
giving us a sacred path to follow.

Thank you for Jesus, for the eternal gift of his life and love.

Thank you for the church, the worldwide fellowship of disciples,
and for the saints who have gone before us.

With grateful hearts we remember those saints
who have shaped our lives.
Their faith, courage, and love continue to guide and inspire us.
With the saints of every time and place,
and with all creation singing your praise,
we join our voices and sing:

SANCTUS (sung) *Holy, Holy, Holy* More Voices 203

In Jesus, love incarnate,
you provide us all we need for each day:
his words comfort the weary;
his actions challenge the contented;
his presence feeds the deepest hunger in our souls.

The bread of life nourishes our deprived bodies.
The cup of blessing revives our thirsty souls.
The gathered community strengthens our growing faith.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (sung) More Voices 204

On the night in which Jesus was betrayed,
he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
"Take eat; this is my body, broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples saying:
"This is the cup of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for all people for forgiveness.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Holy One, we remember and give thanks for your Child Jesus,
and we ask that you bless and pour your Spirit on us gathered here
and on these symbolic gifts of bread and cup.

May this broken bread be made whole in our taking.
May this full cup overflow in our sharing.
With these symbolic elements, nourish and enliven us,
our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer.
Praise be to you, now, tomorrow, and forever.

GREAT AMEN (sung) More Voices 205

RECEIVING COMMUNION Music by Sherry Steele

Please bring forward your "Always Remembered" cards
if you want them placed on the Tree of Saints

All are welcome at Christ's table, no matter what. Please come forward as you are able down the centre aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat by the outside aisle. The centre serving station has only gluten free elements. If you prefer to be served in your seat, lift a hand and the elements will be brought to you.