Riverbend United Church
Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

November 15, 2026

We Gather Together

Prelude		Sherry Steele
Welcome / Announcements		Rev. Valerie Oden
Introit	*Meditation (M. Helman)*	RUC Handbells

Call to Worship — Rob Seal, Lay Leader

One: As we enter the season of dark days, we gather here to share in the light of hope.
All: May we listen for the gifts of this day.
One: We come as we are, welcomed into God's presence.
All: We come to share in the journey, remembering that God is with us, that we are not alone, and we are grateful.

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Holy one, as we move through the seasons of life, may we trust in your presence. As the ground hardens and the leaves crumble, we seek your promise. Open our hearts that we may find unexpected gifts of this season. May we look into the darkness and find its beauty. Amen.

*Opening Hymn	*This is God's Wondrous World*	VU 296
Children's Time		Alec Gallant
The Lord's Prayer		VU 910
*Children's Song	*Lord Prepare Me*	MV 18

We Listen for the Spirit

Scripture Reading	Psalm 46 (Refrain 2) Ecclesiastes 3: 1-7; Isaiah 55: 1-3a, 10-12	VU 770
Anthem	*Like a River in My Soul (T. Osiek)*	RUC Choir
Reflection	"Wintering"	Rev. Valerie Oden
*Hymn of Response	*When the Wind of Winter Blows*	MV 71
Special Music	*Sarabande (D. Wagner)*	RUC Handbells

We Share in Prayer

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Hymn	*Peace for the Children* *("Peace in the darkness…")*	MV 149
A Winter Litany	"Listening to Winter" *(Joyce Rupp)*	
Prayer Hymn	*Peace for the Children* *("Peace in the darkness…")*	MV 149

We Go Forth to Serve

Stewardship Moment — Rob Seal

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	*All Beautiful the March of Days*	VU 530

*Benediction

Postlude

**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, 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. All the church events are listed in the **Front Pew newsletter** by the front doors to the church.

SAVE THE DATES

- **Christianity 101**
  9:30 a.m. November 22, 29 & December 6

- **Advent I** November 29

- **Blue Christmas service**
  4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 6

- **Community Carol Sing**
  4:00 p.m. Saturday, December 12

- **Children's Christmas program**
  10:30 a.m. December 13

- **Advent Companion Discussion**
  9:30 a.m. December 13 and 20

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Sunday, November 15, 2026
10:30 a.m.