

## Weekly Update 12/20/21

		<u>Last Week</u>	<u>YTD Returns</u>
Domestic Equities	S&P 500	-1.91%	24.73%
International Developed	MSCI EAFE	-0.46%	8.49%
Emerging Markets	MSCI EM	-1.76%	-3.92%
Fixed Income	BBgBarc US Agg Bond	0.35%	-1.33%

Stocks were lower for the week, as fears over the new covid variant continue to be at the top of mind for investors. Oddly enough, the announcement of a hawkish shift in monetary policy was well received. The Fed announced plans to speed up the process to end monthly bond purchases and illustrated plans to hike rates as many as three times next year. It is clear, however, that covid remains a front and center issue. With many areas enacting stricter protocols, the global economy may be headed for another temporary slowdown. We have seen how this plays out though, and any slowdown in the near term will likely be met with a larger uptick in activity as restrictions ease. Market activity has been especially disjointed as of late as investors digest the latest in covid news, along with the shift in Fed policy. Adding to the market movements may be some year-end repositioning and tax selling. In all, we expect that things will calm down as we move into the new year, and we maintain a constructive view towards equities.

\*Index returns are from Morningstar and are calculated on a total return basis, with dividends reinvested.