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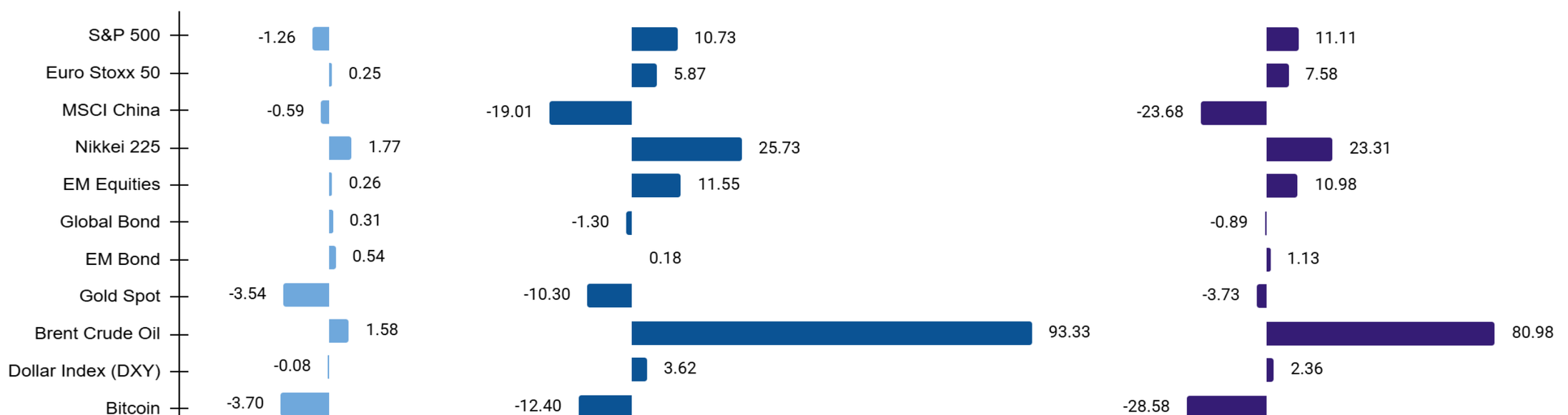
Weekly Market Recap

Insights That Light the Way



Market Snapshot

2 November 2026



Note: EM Equities - MSCI Emerging Markets Index, Global Bond - Bloomberg Global-Aggregate Total Return Index , EM Bond - JPMorgan EMBI Global Diversified Index
Source: Bloomberg, as of 30 October 2026

	Commentary
US Equities	The S&P 500 declined 1.26% as concerns around AI spending and earnings quality outweighed generally strong third-quarter corporate results. Market breadth is also narrow, with only around 37% of S&P 500 constituents above their 50-day moving averages. The weekly decline therefore reflected greater scrutiny of valuations and capital efficiency rather than a broad collapse in earnings.
China Equities	MSCI China declined 0.59%, extending its YTD loss to 19.01%. September exports remained exceptionally strong at 36.3% y/y, pushing the trade surplus to $133.5 billion, but domestic indicators remained considerably weaker. Consumer confidence softened, M1 money growth slowed, and outstanding loan growth remained subdued despite large increases in Total Social Financing. Market liquidity and breadth also remained deeply negative. The weekly decline therefore reflected continued skepticism that export-led growth and targeted policy support can generate a durable recovery in household demand and private-sector confidence.
Emerging Markets	EM Equities gained 0.26%, despite substantial internal divergence. South Korea continued to report exceptionally strong semiconductor exports, confirming robust global AI-related demand, yet margin pressure and foreign selling remained concerns after SK Hynix's earnings disappointment. India faced renewed pressure from elevated oil prices, while Singapore showed deteriorating liquidity and market breadth despite resilient headline growth. The modest weekly gain therefore concealed considerable dispersion between technology-export strength and weaker domestic demand, external balances and financial conditions across individual emerging economies.
Bonds (Global / EM)	Global Bond gained 0.31%, while EM Bond rose 0.54%. The Federal Reserve's decision to hold rates and renewed uncertainty around technology-sector cash flows supported demand for duration, while Treasury yields declined late in the week. However, central-bank guidance remained cautious and inflation risks stayed elevated, limiting the strength of the rally.
Gold	Gold declined 3.54% during the week. The metal remained under pressure from elevated real yields and expectations that the Federal Reserve may still tighten policy later this year. U.S. inflation data reinforced the possibility of another rate increase, reducing the relative appeal of non-yielding bullion. The decline also suggests that investors preferred government bonds as the primary defensive asset during the week rather than allocating heavily to precious metals.
Crude Oil	Brent crude gained 1.58%, lifting its YTD return to 93.33%. Prices remained supported by continued instability surrounding the Iran conflict and shipping disruptions through the Strait of Hormuz, while Brent traded near $115–118 per barrel during the week. High oil prices continued to create significant pressure for energy-importing economies, including Thailand and India.

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Key Driver of the Week

2 November 2026

- **Central banks paused, but the global tightening cycle remained intact:** The Fed, ECB and BOJ all left rates unchanged, but none signaled a definitive end to tightening. The Fed held at 3.75%–4.00% with two dissenters favoring a hike, the BOJ maintained 1.25% while raising inflation forecasts, and the ECB highlighted upside inflation risks from energy. This helped stabilize government bonds, but policy expectations remained restrictive.
- **Corporate earnings remained fundamentally strong:** particularly across cloud computing and AI infrastructure, but investor attention shifted from revenue growth toward capital efficiency. Microsoft and SK Hynix demonstrated strong AI monetization and cash generation, while Alphabet, Amazon and Intel highlighted growing concerns around free cash flow, heavy capital expenditure and execution risk. The earnings season therefore reinforced the underlying strength of AI demand while increasing scrutiny over whether current investment levels can generate sufficient shareholder returns.
- **Elevated oil prices continued to transmit geopolitical risk into inflation:**Brent remained above $110 and rose another 1.58% over the week, keeping energy inflation at the center of the macro outlook. Higher oil prices continued to pressure household purchasing power, corporate margins and external balances, particularly in energy-importing economies.



Highlight of the Week

The Federal Reserve kept interest rates unchanged, as markets expected. However, policymakers signaled that another rate hike could still be possible later this year in December if inflation remains elevated. Treasury yields moved higher after the announcement, with markets increasing expectations for a December hike.

What We Are Watching

Date	Event / Indicator	Last vs Consensus	Potential Summary
02-Nov-26	U.S. ISM Manufacturing PMI	Last:54.9|Cons:54.9	Manufacturing activity remained in expansion territory, suggesting the U.S. economy continues to show resilience despite a high interest-rate environment.
03-Nov-26	U.S. Midterm Election	N/A	Election results could influence fiscal policy expectations and may lead to increased market volatility in the short term.
06-Nov-26	U.S. Non-Farm Employment Change	Last:29k|Cons:63k	A key indicator of labor market strength. A stronger-than-expected reading may support a higher-for-longer rate outlook, while weaker data could reinforce easing expectations.
This week	Apple /Palantir/ AMD /ARM/ Qualcomm Earnings	N/A	Results will be closely watched for signals on AI demand, semiconductor spending, and the sustainability of earnings growth within the technology sector.