

MANHATTAN BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH
December 28, 2025

PRELUDE "The Three Kings" Gordon Young
Jean Whitcomb, Organist

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Mike Spitters
Senior Minister

ANNOUNCEMENTS Joanne Ordinario

HYMN OF PRAISE: 172, "We Three Kings" (verses 1, 2 & 5)

CALL TO WORSHIP Judy Hatlie
Leader: On this Sunday of stories too heavy for tinsel, we come seeking truth and courage.

All: God meets us in what is real.

Leader: When the road bends toward uncertainty...when life requires unexpected journeys--

All: Christ walks beside us.

Leader: When injustice threatens and fear tries to have the last word--

All: The Spirit rises with us in hope.

Leader: Come, people of God, let us worship God who protects the vulnerable and calls us to do the same.

All: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER Judy Hatlie

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Truth Be Told" Matthew West
Kate Crellin, voice and piano

TIME WITH CHILDREN Billy Minshall

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER Billy Minshall
Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Holy Spirit" Bryan and Katie Torwalt
Kate Crellin, voice and piano

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:13-23 (pg. 784) Judy Hatlie

SERMON "The Place You Never Meant to Go"
Pastor Mike

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY



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OFFERTORY "Infant Holy" (Polish Carol) R. W. Thygerson

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

We give thee but thine own, what e're the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.

OFFERING PRAYER Judy Hatlie

CLOSING HYMN 151, "The First Noel" (verses 1 - 3)

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION Pastor Mike

One: God be in my head

All: and in my thinking.

One: God be in my eyes

All: and in my seeing.

One: God be in my hands

All: and in my serving.

One: God be in my heart

All: and in my loving.

POSTLUDE "In Dulci Jubilo" arr. Robert Hughes

GREETERS: Bill and Jodi Ryan

USHERS: Sally Elenitsky and John Hugunin; Rich and Jackie Perkins

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