

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, September 28th, 2025

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

Scripture reading: Romans 15:1-6

I Timothy 2:14,15

Confession of Faith: Acts 22:1-5

Special Music: "Jesus Loves Me"

Baptism

Praise Team: "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

"Only a Holy God"

Children's Church dismissed

Sermon: "A Church Alive"

Colossians 1:3-8

Benediction

Hymn: "Take the Name of Jesus with You"

Postlude

~~~~~  
Door Offering for work on the Ministry House.

Upcoming Events:

Tues: 6:30pm Greven Small Group

Wed: 6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Southern Belle  
2pm Adult Bible Study  
6pm BLAST, JAM, and Youth classes

Thurs: 9:30am Ladies Bible Study  
6:30pm Cryder Small Group  
7pm Mathre Small Group

Fri: 7:30pm Pilon Small Group

Sun: 8:30 Fellowship  
9:00 Sunday School  
10am Worship service—Stacy Swenson

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21  
~~~~~

- **Coming Soon!** We are working on a reusable birthday and anniversary calendar for members and those in the church directory. Please check the copy at the Welcome Center for accuracy, or to opt out if you do not wish to be included. You may also confirm your information by sending it to the church email.
- Stacy Swenson will be here next week to share an update on Light of the Moon ministries and Ahava house with the adult and high school Sunday school classes. We will be meeting in the lower level at 9am. There will be a door offering for Light of the Moon following the worship service.
- Ray and Ruthann Gorrell will be here on November 2nd to share about their ministry during the worship service. There will be a door offering to follow.
- **Christmas Choir** sign ups are available at the Welcome Center!

Our Food Pantry has had the privilege of serving our community by faithfully running two distributions per month for 18 years. We see new families and seniors come humbly looking for help to secure food in these challenging times. We are currently serving 60 families per month, but the winter is coming so we know those numbers will increase. We also have a satellite distribution at Grace Church in Oswego that serves 64 additional families.

Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) has always delivered food at a discount. We purchase at NIFB since every \$1.00 we spend; we get \$8 worth of food. It has allowed our pantry and all other area pantries to supply a variety of food to our neighbors in need, with this great discount. The

Annually we've been able to secure a \$10,000 grant to keep our pantry moving forward, but unfortunately such government grants are no longer available. Not to us and not to NIFB, which means our budgets that have worked to sustain us are no longer viable. That along with the overall increased cost of food, which you are fully aware of.

At present our funds will carry us to the end of 2025 and so we are asking can you consider:

- Praying for wisdom for the future of our pantry
- Consider monthly support
- Monetary support as you are able
- Check with your employer to see if they might match your gift.
 - o A donation receipt can be given

We are very thankful for all the support we've received through the years from our HLC family. We will be looking to the Lord as we continue to follow the scripture we began with Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink."

The Helmar Lutheran Church Food Pantry Board



September 28, 2025
"A Church Alive"
Colossians 1:3-8

The Church of the Colossians faced attacks from the devil. They knew spiritual warfare. They were a fellowship, fully alive in the Holy Spirit and, because of this, the Enemy was throwing his darts of deception. Here is the question: Why was the church a lively fellowship? Our text provides two reasons.

I. It Was A _____ Church vv. 4-5

- _____ v. 4
- _____ v. 4
- _____ v. 5

II. It Was A _____ Church vv. 5b-7

•The Gospel Described v. 5b and 6b

•What has the Gospel Been Doing? v. 6

•This Gospel (Good News) is:

- ⇒ _____ v. 5b
- ⇒ _____ v. 6
- ⇒ _____ v. 7 (by Epaphras)
- ⇒ _____ Luke 2:10, 11, 31, 32

September 28, 2025

A PEACEFUL WITNESS

Often as a grandfather, when playing with my grandchildren, I find myself reminding them to “play nice.” Whether it is a spat over a specific toy or who gets to ride on my shoulders next, conflict so often finds its way into our relationships—not only those relationships that we value most, but with all relationships. As Christians, we have a responsibility to our God, ourselves, our families, our congregation, our community, and to the greater society at large. That responsibility is to set the example as to what it means to be Christian. And this most certainly is reflected in how we relate to those around us.

The apostle Paul reminds us in Romans 12:18 that “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” As we all know and experience, this is a tall order to faithfully live out, especially in a world that is turning daily farther and farther away from the things of God. How do you live peaceably with those who persecute you, tease you, mock you, and ostracize you? You do it by looking beyond the actions and behaviors of others, learning to see those who oppose you for who they truly are—precious eternal souls.

As Christians striving to live peaceably with all, we anchor the calling to be peacemakers deep into our hearts. For as Jesus proclaims in Matthew 5:9, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” It is by our witness in which we are the salt and light of the world. Thus, as we live out our lives in a manner that shines the light of Christ into all aspects of our lives, it is important to always remember that “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”

I pray that as Christians filled with the joy of the Gospel, as we peacefully engage with the world around us, that those who are lost in the chaos and uncertainty of this fallen world would come to find true peace—the peace that is beyond all understanding.

Pr. Erin Tormanen
AFLC Board of Publications and Parish Education
Stanley, North Dakota

AFLC Promotion for September is Parish Education

Helmar Lutheran Church

(815) 201-3789 email: helmarlutheran@gmail.com
website: helmarlutheranchurch.com

Helmar exists to be a:

***Soul-Winning, Disciple-Making,
Burden-Bearing Church***

Pastor—Steven Lombardo

217-621-2949 Email scbardo64@gmail.com

Children’s Ministry Director- Kristen Mathre

815-762-5320 Email helmarkids@gmail.com

Youth Directors-Jared & Kynsey Mathre

815-483-6616 Email helmaryouth@gmail.com

Music Director-Lisa Greven

815-508-1403 Email matthewgreven@hotmail.com

Secretary—Stacy Christian 815-201-3789

Email helmarlutheran@gmail.com

If you would like to provide **fresh flowers** for the altar, in memoriam or celebration, please contact Lori Chelsen.

Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

9-28-25

Hide God’s Word in your Heart

“Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”

Romans 12:1