

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: “Great is the Lord”

Scripture reading: Psalm 103:6-14

Psalm 104:1-4

Confession of Faith: The Apostle’s Creed

Praise Team: “Hallelujah for the Cross”

“Man of Sorrows”

“Wondrous Cross”

Children’s Church dismissed

Sermon: Series: “Truths to Consider”

“Part Four: Consider Powerful Praise”

Psalm 103:19-22

Benediction

Hymn: “To God Be the Glory”

Postlude



Congregational Meeting regarding enhance security proposal following the worship service.

Upcoming Events:

*The Adult Bible Study and All Life Groups will not be meeting during Lent. They will resume the week after Easter.

Today: Easter Choir practice following the service in the LL

Mon: 3-5pm Food Pantry

Wed: 6:30am Men’s Bible Study @ Southern Belle’s

9am-2pm Quilting

6:30pm BLAST, JAM

6:30pm **Lenten Service** in the lower level (with Youth Group)

Th: 9:30am Ladies Bible Study

Fri: 9am Ladies Prayer Group

Sa: 9:30am-11am Sunday School Pageant practice

Sun: 8:30 Fellowship

9am Sunday School

10am Worship service—Palm Sunday

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21



Lenten Schedule

- Lenten Services are being held every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm in the lower level. The theme this year will be “Keeping Near the Cross”. The Adult Bible Study and the Life Groups will not meet from February 17th through Good Friday. They will resume on April 7th.
- There will be an **Easter Pageant** presented by our Sunday School children during the worship service next week on Palm Sunday. **Parents**, there will be a rehearsal on March 28th from 9:30-11:00am for all grade 8 and under. The **FLBC Men’s Quartet** will be with us during the worship service.
- Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 6:30pm on April 2nd
- Good Friday Service at 6:30pm on April 3rd
- Easter Sunday—No Sunday School. Worship Service at 10am

- **Fill a Lunch, Fill a heart!** The children’s ministry is hosting a Lunchable donation for our food pantry kids! Please bring Lunchables to church during the month of March before church on Sundays and Wednesday nights.
Main donation item: Lunchables!
Also, can bring fruit snacks, fruit roll ups, dessert like/ individually wrapped snacks.
Please drop items off in the plastic bin in the FLC lobby.
- DWWC will have a **Love Offering** for two local ministries showing God’s love for those in need. This year the monetary donation will be divided between Called to Care in Yorkville, and New Beginnings in Morris. The offering will be on Sunday, **March 29th**. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please be in prayer that the money will bless those chosen.
- **Security Updates:** **1.** Moving forward, only door 2 (by the elevator), 9 (angled door by the steps to LL), 3 and 7 (main doors into FLC) will be unlocked on Sunday mornings. All others will remain locked. This will help the security team with their rounds. Doors will continue to be locked during the service. Please make a note of this change. **2.** The Council has approved a bid to add exterior cameras. This security enhancement will cost \$15,000, and requires a congregational vote. Additional details will be given, and the vote will be taken following the worship service today.
- A huge **Thank You** to everyone who worked yesterday at our Spring Clean up day! The grounds at the church, cemetery, parsonage, and ministry house look fantastic; and the parsonage is ready to be used for ministry as the Lord leads. Your laboring together is a testimony to the unity and fellowship of this body of believers.
- A special **Thank You** to Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Newark Lutheran Church for hosting and coordinating the FLBC Concert Choir event this week, and to all those who provided housing and food for the choir members! The evening of music was a blessing to everyone who was able to attend.



March 22, 2026
Series: Truths to Consider
“Consider Powerful Praise”
Psalm 103:19-22

“The Lord is King. His throne is in the heavens...As such, He should be the recipient of praise by everyone and everything...” (MacDonald, Believer’s Bible Commentary, p. 706).

I. Praise by the _____ v. 20

II. Praise by the _____ v. 21

III. Praise by the _____ v. 22a

IV. Praise by the _____ v. 22b

March 22, 2026

*“Come anyone who thirsts, come to the waters and he who has no money, come buy and eat!
Come buy wine and milk without price.”*
Isaiah 55:1

Often, when we think of the Gospel, we default to one or two themes to understand and explain it. We focus on the judicial theme—that we stand guilty like in a courtroom, condemned under God’s righteous law, yet for the sake of Christ we are declared righteous. Also common, the theme of a great debt—that by our sin we have accrued a vast, unpayable debt, yet Christ comes and pays our debt as our own.

These are beautiful and essential parts of understanding the Gospel, but they are not the only ones. The Gospel is a rich, multifaceted diamond. Everywhere you look it sparkles, but each time in a different way.

Starting with Isaiah 40, after a litany of warnings and judgments, we find these beautiful and lush Gospel passages. Among my favorites is Isaiah 55.

The Gospel is like this: Are you thirsty? Here is water. Are you hungry? Here is food. And not just any food. Rich food. And do you need to haggle in the market for this? Do you need to toil in the fields for this? No.

Isn’t that beautiful?

It is like being invited to a rich banquet. The food is of a quality that would demand a premium if it were being sold, but you as a guest get to dine for free. In fact, to try to offer compensation to a host for dinner would be absurd, or even insulting.

Such is the Gospel. God will hear no talk of buying this food. He freely provides it.

What is the qualification? Who is this supply for? The one who thirsts. The one with no money.

Do you know your lack? Do you know your need? Have you tasted your sin and found it does not satisfy but rather grows worse? Come you who are thirsty. Come to the waters. Forgiveness is in abundance, as far as the east is from the west.

Do you know your lack? Do you know your need? A penniless beggar starving in the streets? Come and eat. Drink wine and milk without price. Come fill yourself on the richness of the mercy of God, who takes our emptiness from pursuing lesser things and fills us with peace that passes understanding and joy beyond measure.

Mr. David J. R. Olson
AFLC Coordinating Committee
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

AFLC Promotion for March is the General Fund

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***Helmar exists to be a:
Soul-Winning, Disciple-Making,
Burden-Bearing Church***

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Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

3-22-2026

Hide God’s Word in your Heart

**“Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, And
His praise in the congregation of the godly ones.”**

Psalm 149:1