

**Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL**

Sunday, July 26th, 2026
Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Scripture reading: I Corinthians 15:58

II Peter 3:11-13

Confession of Faith: 2nd Article with explanation

Pastoral Prayer

Praise Team: “Great Things”

“You Cannot be Stopped”

“Christ Won the Victory”

Sermon Series: “Spiritual Warfare—It’s Real!”

Part Three: “Armor—Totally!”

Ephesians 6:13-18

Benediction

Hymn: “Onward Christian Soldiers”

Postlude

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\*There will be a door offering for Phil and Sara Kittelson following the worship service.

The altar flowers are in honor of Scott & Tina’s 36th wedding anniversary on July 28th, 2026 with love from all the kids & grandkids.

The flower arrangement on the organ is on behalf of Brad & Treva Mathre - Honoring God for today’s anniversary of Jesus coming into our Granddaughter's heart!

Upcoming Events:

Mon: 3-5pm Food Pantry

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

Fri: 9am Ladies Prayer Group

Sun: 8:30am Breakfast in the FLC  
9am Phil Kittleson sharing about their work in Bolivia  
10am Worship service—sermon text: Ephesians 6:17,18

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21

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We are beginning to collect items for our **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes. Please check the bulletin board for a list of items needed. Or check with Stacy if you prefer an option that doesn’t involve QR codes.

Life Groups will resume the week of September 13th. The series will be “Ecclesiastes—Life is Worth Living”. Sign-up sheets are available at the Welcome Center.

The **Newark and Yorkville Area Life Groups** still need a host. Day and time are determined by the group. Please see David Christian if you would like to host.

Helmarpalooza—Praise the Lord for his provision! The Helmarpalooza is fully funded!

There will be a **Prayer Walk** for the Palooza on August 3rd at 6pm. All are welcome! Following the Prayer Walk, there will be a **meeting** for volunteers at 7pm. Please plan to attend if you will be helping at the event.



July 26th, 2026

**“Armor—Totally!”
Ephesians 6:13-18**

Christians are to stand firm in the full armor of God. In the text, we are introduced to this wonderful armor.

I. The Belt of _____ v. 14a

II. The Breastplate of _____ v. 14b

III. The Soldier’s Boots of _____ v. 15

IV. The Shield of _____ v. 16

V. The Helmet of _____ v. 17a

VI. The Sword of the _____ v. 17b

July 26, 2026

Someone to Redeem Me

I was trapped in my chair at the front of the church. The altar was right behind me. Before me were four tables seating about forty people in our little meeting place, the size of a one-car garage. We had gathered after the service for our annual tamal dinner.

The steaming meat, packed inside masa wrapped in corn husks, begged for my attention. But I was transfixed by the wonder of what I saw just inside the garage door opening. A young man sat at the table, his wife beside him. And not five feet away stood his brother-in-law. Today was the first time in five years the young man had been back to this service and meal. His brother-in-law had never attended before.

The wonder was because five years ago, the two of them had an explosion of words that very nearly came to blows. The young man sent me a plaintive message that night: “They’re accusing me of terrible things.” And who could ever know the truth? People knew the “what,” but nobody could be sure of the “why.” The young man claimed he was innocent. No one believed him.

Job’s friends didn’t believe him either. No way could someone suffer such drastic misfortunes and be innocent. He had to be guilty of *something*, and nothing Job could say would convince them otherwise. Job needed a Redeemer (Job 19:25); someone to set the record straight (9:33), a witness to testify to his innocence (16:19).

In our interactions with others, we might wish for an Instant Replay to show what really happened, or a Motive Scanner to reveal why we did what we did. We, too, might long for someone who can set the record straight when we are in a dispute or serve as a witness to our innocence.

But *our* need for a Redeemer isn’t to prove our innocence because we are *innocent*. We need a Redeemer because we are, in fact, *guilty*. We need Jesus to argue for our innocence because, as the Redeemer, He paid the price to get us out of the terrible situation we got ourselves into. God’s anger burned against us. Jesus’ blood delivered us. Instant Replay in Scripture shows the crucifixion of God’s beloved Son. A Motive Scan of God’s heart in Scripture reveals the reason why: God “loved us with an everlasting love” (Jeremiah 31:3). And Jesus’ grave is empty—end of argument.

Pastor Todd Schierkolk
AFLC Missionary
Iglesia “Un Lugar de Encuentro con Dios”
Jerez, Zacatecas, Mexico

AFLC Promotion for July is World Missions

Helmar Lutheran Church

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Helmar exists to be a:

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

Pastor— Steven Lombardo

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Children’s Ministry Director- Kristen Mathre

815-762-5320 Email helmarkids@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

Email helmaryouth@gmail.com

Music Director-Lisa Greven

815-508-1403 Email matthewgreven@hotmail.com

Secretary—Stacy Christian 815-201-3789 (call or text)

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Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

7-26-2026

Hide God’s Word in your Heart

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.”
Psalm 119:105