

**Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL**

Sunday, December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Scripture reading: Romans 8:5-8

I John 3:1-3

Confession of Faith: The Apostles Creed

Communion

Special Music: “Make Room”

Praise Team: ”Christmas Offering”
“Emmanuel”

Children’s Church dismissed

Sermon: “A Magnificent Mind-set”

Colossians 3:1-4

Benediction

Hymn: “Angels We have Heard on High”

Postlude

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Upcoming Events:

Today: 4pm Choir practice in the lower level

Tue: 6:30pm Deacons/Trustees Mtg, 7:30pm Council Mtg

Wed: 6:30am Men’s Bible Study @ Southern Belle  
9am-2pm Quilting  
6:30pm BLAST, JAM, and Youth classes

Fri: 9am Ladies Prayer Hour  
5-7pm Food Pantry

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

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

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21

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- We are looking for a member of the church to oversee the group that meets on **Thursday nights to play basketball**. For details, please see one of the trustees.
- There will be a **practice** for the Sunday School Christmas Pageant on Saturday, December 13th from 9:30-11am.
- **Christmas Card Exchange**—As they have in the past, the youth group will be sorting Christmas Cards for the congregation. Bring in your Christmas cards for church members no later than December 14th (print names only on the envelope) and they will be ready for pickup after the service.
- Our DWWC (Doing What We Can) sign-up sheets are available in the FLC lobby. All are welcome to take part. Be a participant. Be a servant. To God be the Glory!

Dear HLC Congregation,

We shared with you the state of our Food Pantry ministry and you not only heard and prayed for us but absolutely overwhelmed and humbled us. Thank you for responding with your generous gifts of support. Due to your generosity, we went from closing the ministry in December to being able to offer food to our patrons into Spring of next year. We thank you for your own sacrifice to help us fulfill God's Word here in our community. May we continue to keep our eyes on the Lord and praise be to God for always meeting our needs.

Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink."

Thank you,

Helmar Lutheran Pantry Board



December 7, 2025
"A Magnificent Mind-set"
Colossians 3:1-4

Paul, in this text, encourages believers to live as different people. He presents here a general exhortation. As the letter goes on, he will get rather specific about what it means to live as new creations of God. However, today we seek to answer the question: "How then shall we live?"

I. We Live _____ vv. 1,2

II. We Live _____ v. 3

III. We Live _____ v. 4



December 7, 2025

"I am the light of the world."
John 8:12b

"I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). As Christians we know this phrase well. We also know the rest of verse 12, "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (NIV). I love this verse in John's gospel as we see the message of the verse in our everyday life.

A 5-watt nightlight provides security for everyone in my home not to walk in darkness in the middle of the night. The headlamp I wear when hiking allows me not to walk in darkness and safely see my path. Streetlights allow me to not walk in darkness to my neighbor's house and return home. And, of course, we are bathed in light from the sun during the day and light from the moon at night. Light is everywhere in our daily life, and it is good.

As I was preparing this devotion based on John 8:12, I was reminded of a news story I recently read about the Saudi Arabian government installing solar powered laser lights in the desert to guide lost travelers to water at night. This effort to provide a lifesaving light in the dark of night to guide people to a lifesaving source of water is a direct parallel to what our Savior does for us. As we are taught throughout Scripture, He is *the light of the world* (John 8:12), He brings us out of darkness (Colossians 1:13), He brings us to the water of life where we will thirst no longer (John 4:14).

Jesus has an eternal promise for His light for us as well. In Revelation, John writes in relation to the New Jerusalem on the New Earth, "The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp." How glorious! Our Savior will dwell among us and provide us light for eternity! Amen, come, Lord Jesus!

As you go about your week, I hope and pray that you will see your Savior every time you see light in the world. He has promised to always go with you. Light is evidence of His promise to you, for He is *the light of the world*.

Mr. Thomas Asfeldt
AFLC Foundation Board of Trustees President
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

AFLC Promotion for December is All Ministries

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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Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

12-7-25

Hide God's Word in your Heart

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart
And do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5,6