

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, May 17th, 2026
Confirmation Sunday

Prelude: “How Good It Is”

Welcome

Hymn: “Since Jesus Came into My Heart”

Scripture reading: Psalm 37:1-6

Proverbs 3:5,6

Testimony: Carter Chelsen

Testimony: Ellie Chelsen

Praise Team: “In Christ Alone”

Testimony: Brett Cryder

Testimony: Payton Yaggie

Confirmation

Praise Team: “Firm Foundation”

“New Doxology”

Children’s Church dismissed

Sermon: “Little Girl—Great Faith”

II Kings 5:1-3

Benediction

Hymn: “Trust and Obey”

Postlude



A heartfelt Thank You to Matt Greven for his faithfulness in teaching the Confirmation class, and declaring to the next generation the whole council of God. (Acts 20:27)

Upcoming Events:

M: 3-5pm Food Pantry

Wed: 6:30am Men’s Bible Study @ Southern Belle’s
2pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS groups (Last one)
6:30pm Greven Life Group

Th: 6:30pm Cryder Life Group, 7pm Mathre Life

Fri: 9am Ladies Prayer Group
7:30pm Pilon Life Group

Sun: 9:30am Fellowship
10am Worship service

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21



- Today is the last Sunday that we will have Sunday School until Rally Day in the Fall. Beginning next Sunday, fellowship will be at 9:30, with the Worship Service beginning at 10am.
- May 20th is the last night for Wednesday evening classes until Fall.
- The last Life Group meetings will be the week of May 24th.
- May 27th is the last Adult Bible Study until Fall.
- May 31st we will be welcoming new members!

Summer Backyard Bible Studies for the youth are back! We are looking for YOU to host the youth one Wednesday night this summer and share a Bible lesson, your testimony, or devotion. Sign up sheets and more information are available at the Welcome Center! Begins June 3rd.

The **Helmarpalooza Matching Fund** is available until June 1st. Be in prayer about how the Lord would have you participate with this ministry. You may donate directly from the Helmarpalooza.com website. And don’t forget to register for you tickets!

Pray for our Graduates! Junior High: Carter Chelsen, Ellie Chelsen, Brett Cryder, Payton Yaggie. High School: Lily Benjamin, Hannah Greven, Sam Niles. Liberty University Graduate School: Jim Osmond

*To add graduates, please contact the church office.

Registration is open for the **Family and Youth Bible Camp!** July 19-23rd at Cedar Lake, Indiana. Keynote speaker is Pastor Steve Larson and Don Davidson is leading an adult Bible hour this year. If you are a current HLC member, Helmar will help send you to camp. Reach out to Kristen or Jacob Mathre for more details.

Register at <https://www.fybiblecamp.com/>

"I Love America" Choir

Inviting singers to join the "I Love America" Choir which performs Sunday evening, July 5 in Newark.

Rehearsals at Helmar Lutheran Church 11935 Lisbon Rd. (rural) Newark, in the FLC lobby. Chairs provided as needed.

Tuesdays 6:30p-8:00p, May 26 through June 30, and Thursday 7/2 7:00p-10:00p with Choir and Orchestra in Helmar FLC gym.

More info: Sharon McKanna (cell): 815-690-5337



May 17, 2026

**“Little Girl—Great Faith”
II Kings 5:1-3**

Today we recognize four young people who are testifying to their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. A young girl, a captive in Syria, also testified to her faith in the Lord. But she was away from her home in Israel and a slave in a foreign country. What an encouragement she is to young people today!

Those who trust Jesus are characterized by:

I. _____ the Best v. 2

II. _____ the Best v. 3

III. _____ the Best v. 3

May 17, 2026

Psalm 136 serves as a liturgy of praise to God for His ongoing provision for the nation of Israel. The first half of each verse praises God for His character, intervention, and provision, while the second half of each verse is a master class on repetition. While the psalm declares the truth and points us to see God's faithfulness, the second half of each verse runs the risk of causing you to zone out or skim the rest of the psalm.

26 separate times, we are reminded that God's steadfast love endures forever. If you're reading this responsively in a worship service, it's easy to lose focus because of the repetition. Could it be that our spiritual adversary desires nothing more than for us to forget, overlook, or take for granted the fact that God's faithfulness and steadfast love endures? I think that's more than likely.

Bible Interpretation 101: be on the lookout for repetition. This is a literary tool that adds emphasis to what is being said. Some examples of this include the vision in Isaiah 6 as heavenly creatures declare God to be "Holy, Holy, Holy." We see Jesus using repetition as He teaches the disciples: "Truly, truly I say to you . . ." (John 3:3, 5:24, and 8:34 as examples).

The repetition in Psalm 136 is meant to be more than just a gentle, ongoing reminder to the audience of God's faithfulness. It's meant to be a declaration of spiritual heritage—a verbal pillar that grounds the audience on a fundamental truth: that based on His nature alone, God is worthy to receive all praise and glory due Him. This is the message of the elders in Revelation 4 as they affirm the praise given to God for creating what He pleased (4:11). This is the point Jesus makes as He enters Jerusalem, declaring that the rocks will cry out in worship. Psalm 136 serves as an opportunity for us to replace monotony and apathy with joy and thanksgiving as we remind ourselves that God is truly faithful and His love endures.

Pr. Dan Hurner
AFLC Youth Ministries Networking Coordinator
Dalton, Minnesota

AFLC Promotion for May is Youth Ministries

Helmar Lutheran Church

(815) 201-3789 email: helmarlutheran@gmail.com
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Helmar exists to be a:

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

Pastor— Steven Lombardo

217-621-2949 Email scbarido64@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 (call or text)

Email helmarlutheran@gmail.com

Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

5-17-2026

Hide God's Word in your Heart

“Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth,
before the evil days come and the years draw near when
you will say, “I have no delight in them”.

Ecclesiastes 12:1