

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, September 21st, 2025

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: "Great Is The Lord"

Scripture reading: Romans 1:8-17
Ephesians 2:17-22

Confession of Faith: Acts 17:24-28

Pastoral Prayer

Praise Team: "His Mercy Is More"
"He Will Be"
"Living Hope"

Children's Church dismissed

Sermon: "Uncommon People"
Colossians 1:1,2

Benediction

Hymn: "Faith Is The Victory"

Postlude

Upcoming Events:

Mon: 3-5pm Food Pantry

Tues: 6:30pm Greven Small Group

Wed: 6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Southern Belle
9am-2pm Quilting
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: 5:30pm Autumn Worship Night under the Pavillion
Pilon's Small Group will not meet this week

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

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21
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- The Trustees are planning to complete some work on the windows, siding, and garage doors on the Ministry House. We will have a door offering to help cover the cost of those projects on September 28th following the worship service. Please be praying about how the Lord would have you contribute.
- **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.
- Please join us for an **Autumn Worship Night** on September 26th. 5:30pm Games/Candy, 6:30pm Pizza, 7pm Worship/Bonfire.
- Stacy Swenson will be here on October 5th 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.

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.

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 21, 2025**  
**"Uncommon People"**  
**Colossians 1:1,2**

We are beginning a series of sermons from Paul's letter to the Colossian church. The theme of the letter is: The Supremacy and the Sufficiency of Christ.

**Introduction to the Colossians**

The Problem that had developed: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Paul the Apostle v. 1**

**II. The Recipients v. 2**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**III. The Greeting v. 2**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

September 21, 2025

### THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD

A tear trickled down her cheek. Yet her eyes were fixed. I felt breathless. I wanted to stop. I wanted to freeze the moment in time. But I couldn't stop. I mustn't stop. Stopping would destroy the beauty of the rare moment. The story propelled me forward.

In our sparse basement classroom, we stimulated our imaginations weekly and adventurously lived the stories of the Bible. One day, we all navigated the storm at sea while Jesus slept in our cardboard boat that tossed about wildly atop the blue, crumpled bedsheets we imagined to be waves of water. But this day was different. This day I was reading the story of Jesus' crucifixion. Students sat quietly around our classroom table. They listened and gazed upon the single illustration held in my hand of the suffering servant Jesus.

Her eyes were still fixed, and I kept reading. "Jesus, the Lamb of God, bled and died on the cross. Jesus took the punishment for you and me." Today at least one child seemed to grasp the reality of the story and the immensity of what Jesus had done. Grieving the suffering and death of Jesus, the child caught a glimpse of her own sin. In childlike faith, she understood that not only was Jesus our friend, rescuing us in the storm, but He was our Savior.

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10). My mother taught me these words at a similar age. Some may think the truths of Scripture too difficult or complicated for a five-year-old. But the Holy Spirit is not confined. He opens ears to hear, eyes to see, and minds and hearts to understand. He gives knowledge of the Holy One, who is the purist, fullest sacrifice for our sin.

In simple faith, the child in my classroom knew that Jesus died for her. And in that brief moment, through the eyes of a child, I saw the depths of my own sin. Through the eyes of a child, I saw the depths of His suffering for me. Through the eyes of a child, I saw the depths of His love for me.

Mrs. Marian Christopherson  
AFLC Parish Education Director  
Plymouth, Minnesota

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

9-21-25

### Hide God's Word in your Heart

"Not to us, LORD, not to us,  
But to Your name give glory,  
Because of Your mercy, because of Your truth."  
Psalm 115:1