

**Helmar Lutheran Church**  
**Newark, IL**  
Sunday, March 15, 2026  
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: “At the Cross”

Scripture reading: Psalm 32:1-7

Psalm 51:1-4

Confession of Faith: Psalm 103:1-5

Baptism

Special Music: Eric Zettergren

Praise Team: “In Christ Alone”

“His Mercy is More”

Children’s Church dismissed

Sermon: Series: “Truths to Consider”

“Part Three: Consider a True Confession”

II Samuel 12:1-13

Benediction

Hymn: “Grace Greater than Our Sin”

Postlude

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Baptism of Robert Highbaugh  
Date of Birth: February 10, 1937

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
Matthew 28:19,20

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

Wed: 6:30am Men’s Bible Study @ Southern Belle’s  
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: 9am-noon Church Cleanup Day, served lunch at noon

Sun: 8:30 Fellowship  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship service—congregational vote to follow

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21  
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**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 on Palm Sunday, March 29th during the Worship Service at 10am. **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

- Thursday, March 19th, 7pm: **FLBC Concert Choir** at Bethlehem Lutheran in Morris. They are still looking for housing for choir members. This would include taking them home after the concert, providing a place to sleep, and breakfast on Friday morning, then brining them back to the pick-up location. For details, please contact Bethlehem's office at 815-942-1145.
- **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.
- **Spring Clean-up Day:** March 21st at the church, cemetery, and parsonage. We will be cleaning up leaves, sticks and debris, trimming branches, sowing grass seed, and cleaning up the parsonage kitchen. Save the date and plan to bring gloves, rakes, buckets, etc., to help tidy the grounds for a new season. March 28th will be the backup date if we need to reschedule.
- The door offering for Jubilee Bible Camp was \$603.00.
- 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.



**March 15, 2026**  
**Series: Truths to Consider**  
**“Consider a True Confession”**  
**II Samuel 12:1-13**

We are looking today at David's confession of his sins of adultery and murder. But, more than that, we consider God's grace for guilty sinners. In this we note:

I. God's \_\_\_\_\_ v. 1

II. God's \_\_\_\_\_ vv. 1b-6

III. God's \_\_\_\_\_ v. 7

IV. God's \_\_\_\_\_ v. 13b

March 15, 2026

**God's Word Shall Stand Forever**

*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.*  
Isaiah 40:8

Nothing lasts forever. We can see this in nature. In the spring, grass in the pasture stands tall, green and lush; but in the fall it withers and turns brown. The flowers at first reveal their beauty as they bloom and fill the field with color. But the blossoms will soon fade, and the petals will fall.

Isaiah uses this simple metaphor from nature to remind us that life is transitory. A man may be known for his strength, but that strength will slowly dissipate as he grows older, and he discovers that he can no longer do what he could do. A woman may be known for her beauty, but beauty will also fade.

All is temporary. Nations will rise and nations will fall. Borders are drawn and redrawn. An army conquers and then is conquered in return. A king amasses power, but eventually yields that power to another king. A man gathers great wealth but he finds that wealth means nothing as he approaches death.

Only one thing, Isaiah writes, lasts forever. Only one thing will mean anything in eternity: God's Word. "The Word of our God stands forever," he writes. Through the Gospel of Christ, God has made great and wonderful promises to His children in this world. And the greatest of these is the promise that in eternity, we will live in the presence of our Savior in the New Heavens and New Earth where there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain" (Revelation 21:4). This promise is sure and will last into eternity.

Paul is instructing us on what we should cling to. The grass will wither. The flowers will fade. Strength will dissipate, power and wealth will slip through our fingers. Cling not to beauty or strength or power, for they will all fail. Instead, cling to promise of the Word of the Lord. Only that, Isaiah reminds us, will last into eternity.

Dr. Martin Horn  
AFLC Coordinating Committee  
St. Michael, Minnesota

AFLC Promotion for March is the General Fund

**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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**Secretary—Stacy Christian 815-201-3789**

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**Spiritual Disciplines Sheet**

**3-15-2026**

**Hide God's Word in your Heart**

**"Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; According to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions."**

**Psalm 51:1**