

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, September 14th, 2025

Prelude

Welcome

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

Hymn: "How Firm A Foundation"

Scripture reading: I Corinthians 9:24-27

Philippians 3:12-16

The Nicene Creed

Communion

Praise Team: "All Things New"

"Set Free"

"Covered By The Blood"

Children's Church dismissed

Sermon: "Running the Race"

Hebrews 12:1-3

Benediction

Hymn: "Standing on the Promises"

Postlude

Upcoming Events:

Tues: 6:30pm Greven Small Group

Wed: 6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Southern Belle
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: 7:30pm Pilon Small Group

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

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21

- We are still looking for a couple of families to help with Children's Church. This is a great opportunity to impact our little ones with a love for Jesus, God's Word, and His Church! Please see Kristen Mathre for details.
- **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.
- You may still sign up in the Welcome Center for the Adult Small Groups that begin this week!
- You may also still sign up if you are interested in the upcoming first-aid classes put on by the fire department.

- 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.
- Tom Mathre, Jr, has pumpkins here today for pickup after the service. The pumpkins are free, but if you would like to make a donation, Tom is contributing all proceeds from the pumpkins to the Nick Kulbartz family to help them during his recovery.



September 14, 2025
“Running the Race”
Hebrews 12:1-3

In the text, the “race” is the life of faith, that is, the Christian life. The Holy Spirit gives us clear directions as to the running of this “race”.

I. You Welcome the _____ v. 1a

II. You Lay Aside Every _____ v. 1b

III. You Run with _____ v. 1c

1. _____ to Jesus v. 2

2. _____ Him v. 3

September 14, 2025

“My God shall supply all your needs. . .”
Philippians 4:19a

“I need . . .” I think these words too often. What is on your list of “needs”? Most of us are so blessed, we jump over food and shelter to “needs” like health and stuff. But what do I, what do we, really need? As health and strength diminish, I increasingly realize that my greatest need is God Himself. I desperately need Christ’s saving grace. I desperately need God’s daily grace.

God’s grace, richly supplied through my Redeemer Jesus is more than enough to pay the debt I cannot pay—the cost of all my sins. But that lavish gift is not the end of the riches Christ Jesus gives His own. Saving grace opens the treasure of God’s presence within us, the indwelling of His Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9). “If the Spirit of Christ dwells in you, you have eternal life and know blessed fellowship in prayer” (C. O. Rosenius in *Romans: A Devotional Commentary*, p. 102). God’s children have unblocked access to cry out to God.

I find myself increasingly crying, “I need You, Father”:

Abba, I need You, as blood spurts from my son’s thumb and we drive to the emergency room.

Abba, I need help. How do we move to a new home without strength to lift boxes?

Abba, I need You, as I wrestle fear waiting in the car for my first oncology appointment.

With each of those cries, God assured me of His presence through the provision of His Word and through the tangible provision of His people, especially my church family. Each person who ministered to me could have justified inaction due to their own suffering. Despite their needs, they chose to meet mine. That outpouring of love assured me of God’s presence and His steadfast love. My greatest need, God’s presence, is often manifested through His people as they sacrificially provide for the temporal needs of others. God’s Spirit empowers the generosity of His people.

The Christians in Philippi took care of Paul, even while experiencing suffering, need (Philippians 1:29) and sin (4:2-3). In Philippians 4, Paul thanks the Philippi church for providing for him “in his affliction.” Then he assures them that **“my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus”** (4:19). When God empowers His people to meet the needs of others, Christ is visible, and in Christ, we will always have everything we need.

Mrs. Gwen Berge
AFLC Board of Publications and Parish Education
Ramsey, 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

Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

9-14-25

Hide God’s Word in your Heart

“ Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.”

I Corinthians 9:24