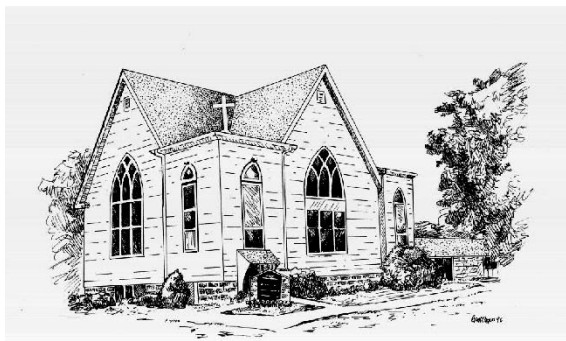




Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, October 25th, 2026
Reformation Sunday

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress"

Scripture reading: Psalm 31:14-19

Matthew 16:1-4

Confession of Faith: 2nd Article with Explanation

Pastoral Prayer

Praise Team: "Battle Belongs"

"Only a Holy God"

"Abide"

Sermon: "There is a Time"

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Benediction

Hymn: "When We All Get to Heaven"

Postlude

Members of Helmar's Prayer Team will be at the front of the sanctuary following the service to meet with those who desire to receive Christ as Lord and Savior, those who wish to renew their relationship with Jesus, or those who need prayer for specific needs. Anointing with oil, according to James 5:14 is available upon request.



October 25th, 2026
“There is a Time”
Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

This text includes the best-known passage in Ecclesiastes, even though many people who are familiar with this poem do not know that it is in the Bible.

I. Everything is Part of God’s _____ vv. 1-8

II. Everything Has a _____ vv. 9-11

III. Nothing is _____ vv. 12-15

Upcoming Events:

- Mon: 3-5pm Food Pantry
7pm Mathre Life Group (Yorkville)
- Wed: 9am-2pm Quilting
2pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm Christian Life Group (Newark)
6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS
- Th: 9:30am Ladies Bible Study
6:30pm Gengler Life Group (Yorkville)
- Fri: 9am Ladies Prayer Hour
7:30pm Pilon Life Group (Minooka)
- Sun: 8:30am Fellowship (**Time Change!**)
9am Sunday School
10am Worship—brief congregational meeting

Life Group Study Questions are available on the ledge outside the sanctuary, or online.

Following the service next week, there will be a brief **congregational meeting** to approve Lucy Rechsteiner as the new Youth Director, and Lisa Greven as the new Secretary.

Operation Christmas Child

- Our Shoebox Packing Party is on November 7th, starting at 4pm. We plan to pack 200 boxes! After the boxes are finished, we will have a Soup Supper together. Sign-up sheets are available at the Welcome Center.
- Sign-up sheets are also available at the Welcome center for those interested in volunteering at our Shoebox Drop-off location during National Collection Week.
- There will be a door offering later this year to cover the additional cost of the shoeboxes. More details coming soon.

October 25, 2026

Counting is one of the first things we learn in school and follows us throughout our lives. We learn to count fingers, to count time, to count money, and to count things in nature. And very quickly, we become quite good at it and can count anything. In this Psalm, God asks us to number our days, to count and appoint them, so that we might gain wisdom. It is the counting of God's blessing and provision in each day. It is a conscious awareness that life is sacred and requires complete trust in our Maker.

In Psalm 90, the Israelites had just been sentenced to walk in the desert for the rest of their days, and I would guess some of them were not very eager to count their days. But He wanted them to assign each day to watch for the eternity of God's plan and the reality of man's frailty.

It's easier to look forward to the exciting and fun days of our lives, but God calls us to look for Him in the mundane and hard days too.

As He taught His disciples to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," so we, too, are to look for the ways in which He is providing for our daily needs. This is what brings true wisdom in life. It's the teaching of our hearts to know and experience God's goodness.

To look outside and see all the ways in nature that God physically provides. To look within our houses and count all the ways God has given life to our families and us. To look in His Word and count the numerous times He tells us of God's salvation plan, making a way to know Him. So we count and count and count.

The counting never ends, but it's not stagnant or frustrating; it is a joy-bringing, wisdom-making, and testimony-building kind of counting. It turns our hearts back to the reason for living, like it says in 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, "For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this; that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised."

What a joy it is to be His child and daily count the ways His goodness flows into our lives!

Mrs. Rachel Mattson
AFLC Board of Publications and Parish Education
Newfolden, Minnesota

AFLC Promotion for October is Parish Education