

**Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL**

Sunday, May 10th, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Easter

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: “For the Beauty of the Earth”

Scripture reading: Genesis 21:1-7

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

Special Music by the Sunday School Choir

Praise Team: “He Will Hold Me Fast”

“It is Well with My Soul”

“Goodness of God”

Children’s Church dismissed

Sermon: “She Laughed”

Genesis 18:9-15

Benediction

Hymn: “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

Postlude



Upcoming Events:

Tu: 6:30pm Deacons/Trustees Mtg, 7:30pm Council Mtg

Wed: 6:30am Men’s Bible Study @ Southern Belle’s
9am-2pm Quilting
2pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS groups
6:30pm Greven Life Group

Th: 6:30pm Life Group (at Dave & Shira’s), 7pm Mathre Life Group

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

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

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21



Confirmation Sunday will be May 17th. Please be in prayer for our confirmands: Carter Chelsen, Ellie Chelsen, Brett Cryder, and Payton Yaggie.

- May 17th is the last Sunday that we will have Sunday School until Rally Day in the Fall. On the 24th, 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.
- May 27th is the last Adult Bible Study until Fall.

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.

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

*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/>

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.

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 or to reserve a book call Sharon McKanna (cell): 815-690-5337

Touch-A-Truck event at Cross Lutheran School on May 17th, 2026. Public is invited. For more information, call: 630-553-7861.

Church Parsonage/Welcome our New Neighbors: At the last Church Council meeting, with an unanimous vote, it was decided to offer the Parsonage to Pastor Phil Kittleson and his family (He is the Pastor at St. Petrie Lutheran Church). All work at the Parsonage is complete and they will be moving in soon.

"We are so thankful for the love, and for the past, present, and ongoing generosity to our family! The people at Helmar Lutheran Church have always made us feel like family throughout the years! May God richly bless you in Christ Jesus!"

Pastor Phil and family

From the Allens: *"A big thank you to all who have stopped by to see us. And thanks for all cards and texts. And Thanks to Pastor for his stopping to see me at St Joe's Hospital and Park Pointe.*

Viv has joined me and helps me get around to therapy and meals. We have had two musical groups perform since we checked in.

May God bless you each one." Jerry and Viv



May 10, 2026

**"She Laughed"
Genesis 18:9-15; 21:1-7**

On this Mother's Day, we look at Sarah and the times she laughed. It wasn't just any kind of laughter. Rather, it was related to the Lord and His gracious involvement in her life.

I. It was a laughter of _____.
Genesis 18:9-15

II. It was a laughter of _____.
Genesis 21:1-7

May 10, 2026

Mothers are a blessing, aren't they? Over the past year, I've been blessed to see my wife, Maggie, gracefully take on the vocation of motherhood as we welcomed our first child into the world. It has given me a newfound appreciation for the work that mothers do as I've witnessed her continually giving of herself to love and care for our daughter. As I consider Maggie, as well as my own mother and grandmothers, I can't help but think about their legacy as the love they have for their children trickles down through the generations.

In 2 Timothy 1:5, Paul points Timothy back to a faithful legacy that has blessed him: "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well." The witness of a faithful mother is a powerful thing. Our mothers are some of the most influential people in our lives, as they teach us through their words and actions in our most formative years and show us what it looks like to love someone unconditionally.

If you're like me, you can relate to Paul's words to Timothy here. I've been blessed by generations of mothers who have faithfully taught the truths of Scripture to their children, earnestly prayed over them, and lived out the love of Christ as they have served and cared for their children. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus tells us, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." When a mother changes her baby's diapers, she serves the Lord. When she comforts her crying child in the middle of the night, she serves the Lord. When she helps her son move into his college dorm, she serves the Lord.

Think of the ways that your own mother, grandmothers, and faithful women of the Kingdom have embraced you with the love of Christ, how they have exemplified faithfulness, patience, and endurance, and have served as the very hands of our Lord in caring for us and providing for our needs. Take time today to thank the Lord for the blessing of mothers and the lasting legacy they have. And thank your mother for the ways that she has loved and blessed you.

Mr. Kyle Erickson
Good Shepherd Free Lutheran
Cokato, Minnesota

AFLC Promotion for May is Youth Ministries

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 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
5-10-2026

Hide God's Word in your Heart

“"Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman
who fears the Lord, she shall be praised."
Proverbs 31:30