

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, April 19th, 2026
Second Sunday after Easter

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"

Scripture reading: Ephesians 6:21-22
Philemon 1:10-16

Confession of Faith: Acts 17

The Pastor's Porch

Praise Team: "Only a Holy God"
"Hymn of Heaven"
"Goodness of God"

Children's Church dismissed

Sermon Series: "The Sufficiency and Supremacy of Christ"
Part 19: "People Persons"
Colossians 4:7-9

Benediction

Hymn: "We are Called to be God's People"

Postlude

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Upcoming Events:

M: 3-5pm Food Pantry

Tu: 6:30pm Greven Life Group

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

Th: 6:30pm Cryder Life Group  
7pm Mathre Life Group

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

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

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21

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Please note: Stacy will be taking time off from April 20th-May 3rd. Shirlene Peterson will be covering the church office during that time.

Parsonage Cleanup Day: On April 25th from 9am to noon, volunteers are needed to remove extra items from the parsonage and clean up throughout the house. Lunch will be provided. Let us prepare this resource for service so that it is ready when the Lord has need of it!

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

Gym Notice: There has been some additional damage to the gym recently and the trustees are asking, once again, that usage of that space be respectful and appropriate. All activity needs to be supervised by an adult (this means being *in* the gym during the activity), and equipment needs to be used properly. Kicking balls is not allowed. Putting gear away and cleaning up when finished is also requested.

Community Choir

Calling all singers to join the "I Love America" Cantata to be performed in Newark on July 5, 2026.

50 years ago, during the Bicentennial, more than 100 voices from the Kendall County area united to sing "I Love America", a musical by John W. Peterson and Don Wyrzten. It is composed of three sections focusing on patriotism, praise and prayer for America.

Songs include: I Love America, I'm Just a Flag Waving American!, In God We Trust, God of Our Fathers, The Red, White and Blue, If My People, Battle Hymn of the Republic and more!

This stirring piece calls America to turn back to our spiritual foundations and give thanks and praise to God.

The Chicagoland Pops Orchestra will provide accompaniment under the direction of John Apple.

Rehearsals will be held at Helmar Lutheran Church, lower level, from 6:30pm-8:00pm on Tuesdays, May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Thursday, July 2.

For more information and to sign up contact Sharon McKanna at 815-690-5337, sharon.mckanna@gmail.com

Let's have a great turnout!

We are excited to announce the complete line-up for **HelmarPalooza 2026 on August 8th!**

-**Warren Peay**, a soulful Christian country artist who was a top 8 finalist on American Idol in 2023.

-**Church Friends**, a family band worshiping the Lord with rich vocal harmonies and acoustic sound best described as "gospel rock". Previously performed on America's Got Talent!

-**Eli Gable**, up and coming Christian artist touring nationwide whose musical style is a blend of Christian worship, folk, and rock.

-**Brandon Heath**, 8-time Dove Award winner and long-time singer and songwriter of many well-known Christian songs you're sure to recognize and love.

-**Stephen McWhirter**, a prominent Christian worship artist and speaker that will also share his powerful testimony of how Christ has worked in his life. He is writer and singer of the popular worship song "Come, Jesus Come," and we are excited to bring a time of impactful worship to close the night this year!

Please pray for HelmarPalooza, that all we plan will ultimately bring glory to the Lord as we strive to be obedient and honor Him! That it will be fully funded, and that the Lord will continue to bless the event with good weather. Donations can be made through the offering box here at church, at helmarpalooza.com (yellow DONATE button), and through the church website and app after selecting "Donate Now". We have matching funds up to 10K for donations through June 1st! *Tickets will be available May 1st!*



April 19, 2026

Series: The Sufficiency and Supremacy of Jesus Part 19: "People Persons" Colossians 4:7-9

In these verses we meet two men, Tychicus and Onesimus, whom we would consider *Encouragers*. Biblically, "to encourage" is "to be called alongside to help." Specifically, Tychicus encouraged with his servanthood; Onesimus with his life.

I. Tychicus vv. 7,8

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

II. Onesimus v. 9

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

April 19, 2026

Follow Me

In John 1:43, we read a simple yet profoundly life-changing invitation from Jesus: “The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, He said to him, ‘Follow Me.’”

Just two simple words—Follow Me—yet within them lies the heart of the entire Gospel. Jesus does not call us to a religious practice, a set of routine rituals, or a list of personally obtained achievements. He calls us to Him and Him alone. His invitation is personal. Jesus finds Philip and speaks directly to him. Before Philip could serve, preach, or lead, he was first called to follow. This is the point where true discipleship begins. Jesus’ call is not about what we can do for Him, but what He intends to do in and through us. To follow Him means to walk closely with Him, to learn His ways, and to trust His direction even when the path is unclear or unknown.

When Jesus said, “Follow Me,” He was not offering worldly comfort or convenience. Jesus does not promise an easy journey, but He promises His presence. The One who calls us to follow never leaves us alone on the path. Following Jesus means surrendering control. It means trusting Him when the road seems uncertain and obeying even when it costs us something. But in that surrender, we find true freedom. In following Him, we discover who we were always meant to be. As Philip followed, he would soon witness miracles, hear the words of Jesus change lives, but also face challenges and persecution. Yet through it all, Philip discovered something much greater: the joy of knowing the Savior personally.

Today, Jesus continues to make the same call to each of us: “Follow Me.” Not “follow your feelings,” “follow the crowd,” or “follow success,” but “Follow Me.” His call cuts through the noise of this world, challenges our selfish nature, and calls us to something eternal.

So today, pause and hear His voice again: “Follow Me.” Let those words draw you away from distraction and into devotion. When we fix our eyes on Jesus, we find the way, the truth, and the life, and there is no greater calling than to walk where He leads.

Mr. Kirk Rautio
Association Retreat Center Director
Osceola, Wisconsin

AFLC Promotion for April is the ARC

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

Email helmarlutheran@gmail.com

Spiritual Disciplines Sheet

4-19-2026

Hide God’s Word in your Heart

“So then, be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil.”

Ephesians 5:15,16