

## Second Year Seminarian Nathaniel Brown's Journey

January 2019

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our LORD Jesus Christ! Between Christmas services and having a few weeks of not needing to do class work has been wonderful.

I helped at my home congregation throughout the whole Christmas season. One of my favorite services was our 7:00 Candlelight Christmas Eve service. The photos I took

were of our 3:00 service, but the 7:00 I appreciated more. It was a smaller service, and was late enough for the candlelight to



be really seen. The Christmas Eve services really showed me the truth of Psalm 133. The verse I am thinking of in particular is verse 1, where it says, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brother dwell together in unity." It can be a challenge at times to go to church, either because of weather, work, family, or a number of different reasons. As we are in a long Epiphany season, I pray that all of you try to attend church every week. You don't need to because Jesus requires it of you, but you should want to be in church because your brothers and sisters are there, and because our Savior is present in the Sacrament and in the preaching of His Word.

### Prayer List:

- For all people, that they may come to the knowledge of Christ and so be saved.
- For all our leaders, that the rules they enact may lead us to quiet and dignified lives.
- That the Church may be strengthened.
- For the Seminary students in St. Louis and in Ft. Wayne, that they may be able to serve His people faithfully.
- That the second years going on vicarage and fourth years receiving their first calls may be strengthened.
- For all pastors and professors that they may be faithful in their service to the Church and to the Scripture
- For all people inside and outside the Church who struggle with finding happiness during the darkest part of the year.

If you have prayer requests, or want to talk, please send them to me! My email is [brownn@csl.edu](mailto:brownn@csl.edu), and my address is: 801 Seminary Place St. Louis, MO 63105



I also got to preach during this break. I loved doing this, and I am looking forward to vicarage when I will have the opportunity to preach a few more times. May 1 seems to be very far away, but it is less than 4 months away! While break has been good for me mentally, it has made the wait for Call Day to drag on. I know that when classes start at the end of the month, it will help the time until May to speed by.

This next semester I am in four classes. One of my classes is Church and World, where I will learn about beliefs systems and how we as Lutherans can talk with people with these beliefs. I am also in Worship and the Word, Reading and Preaching the

Word of God, and Teaching the Faith. This semester has a lot of practical classes, and they are all important to being a pastor. I don't know if I have a class that I am most excited for, because I am excited in all of them. If I had to pick, I think that I want to have a deeper understanding about teaching what we believe to people, so I think I am excited for Teaching the Faith more than my other classes. I also am not taking a language this semester so I am excited to have a bit more free time for these four months. This newsletter is a bit light on my life, but it has been a break with not much going on in my life. This break was needed for me, but next month will be more full. This will be an exciting semester for me, and I pray God's richest blessings to all of you this month!✝

