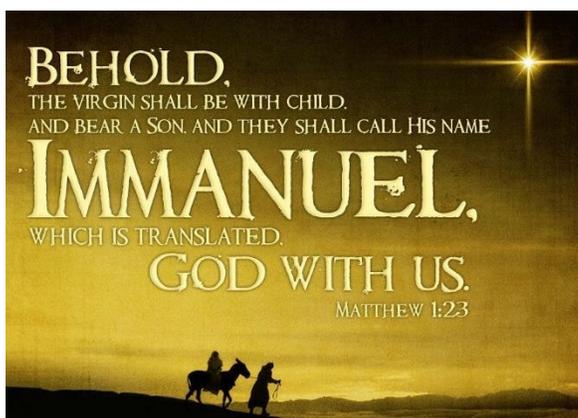


## Vicar Nathaniel Brown's Journey

December 2019 and January 2020

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed, alleluia! I pray that you all had a blessed Christmas season, and a wonderful start to another Epiphany season. I was thinking about getting a December newsletter out, but the end of December was very busy, and so this newsletter will cover two months. Between the 20<sup>th</sup> of December and the start of the new calendar year, I preached three times. One was the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Advent, where my vicarage congregation, Trinity, explored how the sign



promised by Isaiah of the virgin conceiving would have been a sign of judgement for Ahaz, but would be a blessing for those who trust in that

sign. The third time I preached was about the name and circumcision of Jesus, and how we all can see Jesus actively fulfilling the law for us from the start of His life.

My second sermon was on December 28, where the Church throughout the world remembers the Holy Innocents, when Herod slaughtered the boys at Bethlehem because he didn't want another king threatening His power. My supervisor allowed an additional service during a busy



### 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 in her mission.
- For the Seminary students in St. Louis and in Ft. Wayne, that they may be able to serve His people faithfully.
- That those who are suffering from depression or loss may find comfort in our Lord Jesus.
- For all pastors and professors that they may be faithful in their service to the Church and to the Scripture
- For all graduates that they may be strengthened in faith as they transition to a different vocation.
- For the saints of Trinity Lutheran in Girard that they may teach me how to be a faithful pastor.

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: 109 West St. John St. Girard, KS 66743

Christmas season, and was a service who didn't feel like there was a reason to be as joyful during the holiday season, either because of depression, loss of loved ones, or any other reason. It was an emotional service for some, but we all remembered that even if we don't feel like rejoicing, Christ is still with us. I think that it was a good service, and I pray that it helped others.



Since my last newsletter, the Church has celebrated Epiphany, when many Christians celebrate Christmas. My vicarage has supported an orphanage in Latvia, and we make bracelets for the kids there. We were a bit worried that they wouldn't get there in time for Christmas, but they told us, that gift giving doesn't happen until Epiphany, or Christmas for the Gentiles. I thought that that was very cool to separate the birth of Christ and gift giving in a significant and somewhat historical way.

My congregation also has been having tile issues, so we needed to clean out the fellowship hall completely, so that the tiles could be removed. It is a large project, and since my office is in the fellowship hall, that meant that I needed to clean out my office and move temporarily, so I am now having an office at home for a couple of weeks. It is not the best situation, but I have enough in my "office" to have business continue as usual until I can move back into my office.



It has been a busy Christmas season, but fairly stable as well. I am starting to find a weekly routine, which is very nice. My address for the year is **Vicar Nathaniel Brown, 109 West Saint John Street, Girard, KS 66743**. We as Christians have much to rejoice about, since our Savior came into our flesh, and died for us. We also can't help but proclaim that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!†