

# Vicar Nathaniel Brown's Journey

April 2020

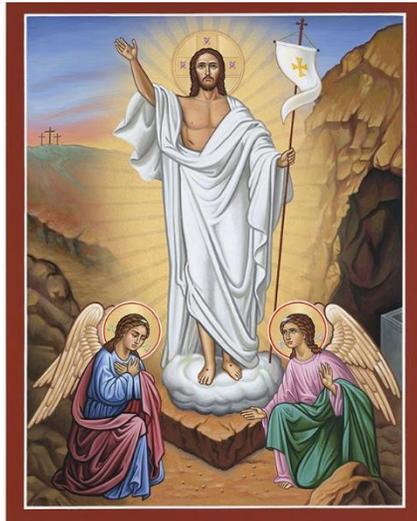
Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! I never would have dreamed that this month would have happened. The day after I made last month's newsletter, Trinity decided to cancel all services, so I got a taste of starting services in a livestream format. That has been interesting to say the least.

Also, I was the preacher for our Maundy Thursday sermon. My supervisor told me to preach to have people crave the Lord's Supper. Then the pandemic hit, and we canceled services. I hope and pray that this is my only Maundy Thursday without communion, because it didn't sit right with me. Maybe you have been dealing with similar feelings as we all navigate this together. My sermon was about how we are fasting instead of feasting, and I have been told that it was a really good sermon



for the situation.

Easter was also changed this year. We as Christians certainly should celebrate our Lord's resurrection, but usually we do it with one another. Processing in the church to Jesus Christ is Risen Today is the best moment in the Church Year, and this year it didn't



happen, but hopefully it will when we can all gather again. We still celebrate, as we should, because Jesus is still alive!

## 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.
- For all those affected by the Coronavirus epidemic, and for all people working to protect others through this.
- 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

Also, I am starting to get back into the school mentality, since in August, I will be back in class. That has brought up a number of emotions for me. The first is how my heart goes out to the second and fourth year Seminarians at St. Louis and at Fort Wayne. The highlight of both of those years is Call Day, when the new vicars find out where they will be serving for the upcoming year, and the future pastors find out where they will be called. None of them know where they are going, and this year, they won't have the service to find out. They will still hear their names, and there will be a virtual service for both seminaries. Having been to my own vicarage Call Day service, I know how special that day is, and it won't be the same type of highlight that it has been in years past. Thankfully, Jesus is still Lord of His Church, and the men going out from both seminaries will still be faithful servants for Him and for His people.



Another thing that isn't pandemic related has really hit home for me the past week. I was talking to my supervisor about Call Day this year, and then it struck me. In twelve months, I will be receiving my first call. I knew that seminary was four years, but I haven't thought that I was close to finishing until this week. I have a couple months of vicarage left, and then my fourth year begins. Knowing how my second year went, I am pretty certain that as soon as the year starts, it will be focused on the prep work for Call Day 2021. It is incredibly humbling to know that my time at the Sem is drawing to a close. Please continue to pray for me and for the rest of my class as we return to the Sem to start our fourth year.

I'm back to my normal newsletter length. Easter has come again, and once again we can boldly and gladly say Alleluia, Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! As you know, my address until July 20 is [Vicar Nathaniel Brown, 109 West Saint John Street, Girard, KS 66743.](mailto:nathanial.brown@stjohns.org)†