

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

May 25, 2025

Easter VI

There is a book at the Sanctuary entry where prayer requests may be entered.

There is also a Square device at the Sanctuary entry if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 44 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia

Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change Without Notice

Gathering Music

Jorge Martinez

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Emma Chattin

Centering

*At the sound of the singing bowl,
please take a few moments to prepare yourself for our worship together*

Illumination

Tee

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

Choir Response

Alleluia

Choir

First Reading ~ Acts 9:1-21

Fab Fernandez

Meanwhile Saul continued to breathe murderous threats against the disciples of Jesus. He had gone up to the temple authority and asked for letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, that would authorize him to arrest and take to Jerusalem any followers of the Way that he could find, both women and men. As he traveled along and was approaching Damascus, a light from the sky suddenly flashed about him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" "Who are you?" Saul asked. The voice answered, "I am Jesus, and you are persecuting me. Get up now and go into the city, where you will be told what to do." Those traveling with him were speechless. They heard the voice, but could see no one. Saul got up from the ground unable to see, even though his eyes were open. They had to take him by the hand and lead him into Damascus. For three days he continued to be blind, during which time he ate and drank nothing.

There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. Christ appeared to him in a vision, saying, "Ananias." Ananias said, "Here I am." Then Christ said to him, "Go at once to Straight Street, and at the house of Judah ask for a certain Saul of Tarsus. He is there praying. Saul had a vision that a man named Ananias will come and lay hands on him so that he would recover his sight." But Ananias protested, "I have heard from many sources about this Saul and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. He is here now with authorization from the temple authorities to arrest everybody who calls on your name." Christ said to Ananias, "Go anyway. Saul is the instrument I have chosen to bring my Name to Gentiles, to rulers, and to the people of Israel. I myself will show him how much he will have to suffer for my name." With that Ananias left. When he entered the house, he laid his hands on Saul, saying, "Saul, my brother, I have been sent by Jesus Christ, who appeared to you on the way here, to help you recover your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. He got up and was baptized, and his strength returned after he had eaten some food. Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days, and soon began proclaiming in the synagogues that Jesus was the Messiah.

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