

Jesus appears to Saul, a zealous persecutor of Christians, and Saul recognizes Jesus as Lord and God. Saul is blinded by this encounter, and after a period of fasting and prayer, he is healed by a Christian named Ananias.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

[9:1-6]

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 30:1-6

¹ I will exalt you, O Lord,

because you have lifted me up *

and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

² O Lord my God, I cried out to you, *

and you restored me to health.

³ You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; *

you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴ Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; *

give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

⁵ For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye,*

his favor for a lifetime.

⁶ Weeping may spend the night, *

but joy comes in the morning.

John reveals Jesus Christ the Lamb as the focal point of his vision, a window into heaven. All creation — all people and nations, animals, angels, things in heaven and earth — gather to praise and worship Jesus the lamb.

A reading from the Revelation to John

[5:11-14]

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.