

March 26th. Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

Readings at Vespers:

1. The Reading is from Exodus. [3:1-8]

Moses came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a fire of flame out of the bush; and he saw that the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not burned up. And Moses said, 'I will approach and see this great sight, why the bush is not being burned up.' When the Lord saw that he drew near to see, the Lord called to him out of the bush, saying, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'What is it?' Then he said, 'Do not come near; remove your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' And he said to him, 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses turned away his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters; I know their suffering, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.'

2. The Reading is from Proverbs. [8:22-30]

The Lord created me the beginning of his ways for his works. Before the age he established me, in the beginning before he made the earth. And before he made the deeps and before the springs of waters came forth, before the mountains were set firm and before all the hills he begets me. The Lord made countries and uninhabited places and the high inhabited places under heaven. When he was preparing the heaven I was present with him, and when he marked out his throne on the winds, when he strengthened the clouds on high and secured the fountains of the earth under heaven, when he gave his command to the sea (and the waters will not transgress his order,) and when he was strengthening the foundations of the earth, I was by him arranging all things. I was the one in whom he delighted; while every day I rejoiced in his presence at every moment.