

**January 1**

**The Circumcision of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ  
and our Father Saint Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia**

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***Troparia and Kontakia***

*Troparion (Circumcision), Tone 1:* You are seated on high on a fiery throne,\* with Your Father who is without beginning and Your divine Spirit.\* Yet You willed, O Jesus, to be born of a virgin maiden, Your Mother,\* as a man, You were circumcised on the eighth day.\* Glory to Your all-gracious will,\* glory to Your providence,\* glory to Your condescension, O You who alone love mankind.

*Troparion (Basil), Tone 1:* Your message has spread through all the earth:\* it accepted the word with which you taught in a manner befitting God.\* You explained the nature of things and ordered human conduct.\* O namesake of the royal priesthood, venerable Father Basil,\* pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.*

*Kontakion (Basil), Tone 4:* You have appeared as a firm foundation for the Church,\* maintaining its authority as a sure refuge for mortals,\* sealing it by your doctrine,\* O venerable Basil,\* revealer of heaven.

*Now and for ever and ever. Amen.*

*Kontakion (Circumcision), Tone 3:* The Lord of all submits to circumcision\* and in His love cuts off the failings of mortals;\* today He gives the world salvation.\* While in the highest there rejoices\* Basil the hierarch of the Creator and bearer of Light,\* and the divine initiate of Christ.

***Prokeimenon, Tone 6***

*All:* Save Your people, O Lord and bless Your inheritance.

*Lector (verse):* Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

*All:* Save Your people, O Lord and bless Your inheritance.

***Epistle***

*Colossians 2: 8-12*

*RSV*

Brethren, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

*NRSV*

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the

body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

*NAB*

See to it that no one captivate you with an empty, seductive philosophy according to human tradition, according to the elemental powers of the world and not according to Christ. For in him dwells the whole fullness of the deity bodily, and you share in this fullness in him, who is the head of every principality and power. In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not administered by hand, by stripping off the carnal body, with the circumcision of Christ. You were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

### **Alleluia, Tone 8**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*verse:* Give heed, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like sheep.

*verse:* The mouth of the righteous shall declaim wisdom, and his tongue shall speak justice.

### **Gospel**

*Luke 2: 20-21, 40-52*

*RSV*

At that time, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favour with God and man.

*NRSV*

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to

him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

*NAB*

Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced [in] wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

***Instead of It is truly right we sing:***

In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

***Communion Verse***

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance;\* of evil hearsay he shall have no fear. Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia.