Vesper Propers, January 1
Circumcision of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ
Our Holy Father Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea

Supplement for *The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

**Lamplighting Psalms** Tone 8, p. 102

Bring my soul out of this prison,
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble,
because of your goodness *to* me.

**Cantor:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; *Psalms 129*  
(on 8) Lord hear my voice!

**Stichera of the Circumcision - Tone 8 samohlasen**

In his love for the human race, the Savior condescended and willed to be wrapped in swaddling clothes. Eight days old according to his mother, and eternal according to his Father, he did not look down upon the circumcision of the flesh. Therefore, O believers, let us cry out to him:

You are our God; have mercy on us!

**Cantor:** Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. *All repeat* "In his love for the human race..."
The all-good God was not ashamed to be circumcised in the flesh, but he offered himself as a symbol and an example of salvation to all.

For the Maker of the Law submitted himself to its commands and to what the prophets beforehand told of him. O our God who hold all things in your hands and yet were wrapped in swaddling-clothes, O Lord, glory to you!

Cantor: My soul is longing for the Lord, I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord, more than watchman for daybreak.

All repeat: "The all-good God..."

Cantor: (Tone 4) Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.

Stichera of Basil - Tone 4 podoben: Zvannyj svyše byw

You have been called by the name of Basil, after the kingdom. In your kingly rank you led the people of Christ to wisdom and knowledge. Then the Lord of
all and King of Kings adorned you with the crown of the kingdom, O Basil.

He is the everlasting and co-eternal Son who was united to her that bore him. Therefore, intercede with him that he may enlighten and save our souls.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. All repeat "You have been called..."

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations; Psalm 116
(on 2) acclaim him, all you peoples!

Adorned with the vestments of a bishop, O Basil, you gladly proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and poured out the teachings of the true faith for the Church. Now enlightened by them we confess and glorify the one Godhead, indivisible in three Persons; namely the almighty
Father, the only-begotten Word of God, and the Divine Spirit. Intercede with him that he may enlighten and save our souls.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

You are now living among the ranks of the heavenly powers, O Basil, for you imitated their life with the purity of your way of living.

When you were in the flesh, you lived on earth as one without flesh.

Therefore, intercede with Christ our God for us who delight in your God-inspired teachings, that he may protect us from dangers and the darkness of ignorance, and that he may enlighten our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory…
O venerable Father, you became a lover of wisdom, preferring life with God to all possessions of the world.

Your contemplation of death made you forsake the wealth of the earth, and by your perseverance in fastings, you overcame the sting of passions. By study of the divine law, you preserved the freedom within your soul. By your generous practice of virtue, you subjected the passions of the flesh to the spirit. You renounced the flesh, the world, and the princes of the earth; now you stand in the presence of Christ.

Intercede with him for great mercy on our souls.
In his love for the human race, the Savior condescended and willed to be wrapped in swaddling clothes. Eight days old according to his mother, and eternal according to his Father, he did not look down upon the circumcision of the flesh. Therefore, O believers, let us cry out to him:

You are our God; have mercy on us!

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, page 12. The Prokeimena for weekdays begin on page 114.

Readings:

- Genesis 17: 1 - 14
- Proverbs 8: 22 - 30
- Proverbs 10: 31 through 11: 12

Litija

Tone 3 samohlasen

With your life of purity, O holy Basil, you attracted Christ, the fountain of life, to dwell in your soul. You channeled streams of inspired teachings to
the world. The faithful people of the Church drink from them

and acknowledge the teachings of your lips and offer good works to him who glorified your memory for all ages.

The holy chrism of grace was poured out upon you, O God-inspired Basil,

and anointed you as minister of the Gospel of the kingdom of heaven.

You were the sweet fragrance of Christ; you filled the earth with the fragrance of his knowledge. Graciously hear the voices of your servants and ask abundant mercy for us who honor you.

Clothed in priestly vestments, holy Basil, O defender of the Trinity,
you stood before the tribunal, braving danger for the faith.

You resisted with the undaunted courage of a martyr. You put to shame the anger of the bold emperor who was filled with the power of the ungodly. You willingly decided beforehand to accept the sufferings that he threatened. Having been ready of your own choice to be a martyr, you received the crown of victory from Christ who has shown you great mercy.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

The grace flowed from your lips, O holy Father Basil. You were the shepherd of the Church of Christ, teaching your spiritual sheep to believe in the holy
Trinity, substantial in the one Godhead.

In his love for the human race, the Savior condescended and willed to be wrapped in swaddling clothes. Eight days old according to his mother, and eternal according to his Father, he did not look down upon the circumcision of the flesh. Therefore, O believers, let us cry out to him:

You are our God; have mercy on us!

The Litiya Litany is found on page 116.

Aposticha

All blessed Basil, you were like a divine and noble bee of the Church of Christ.

When you armed yourself with the sting of divine love, you wounded...
the blasphemers of God—transgressing heresies, and you stored up the sweetness of true worship in the souls of believers. Now that you have attained the delights of the divine presence, remember us before the consubstantial Trinity.

Cantor

My lips will speak words of wisdom; my heart is full of insight.

You have acquired the virtues of all the saints, O Father Basil: the meekness of Moses and the zeal of Elijah, the confession of faith by Peter, and the eloquence in theology of John. Like Paul, you never cease to cry aloud: Who is weak and I am not weak? Who is
offended and I burn not? Therefore, because you dwell with them, pray for the salvation of our souls.

Cantor

The mouth of the just utters wisdom, and his lips speak what is right.

O Basil, the revealer of holiness, having studied the nature of creatures and contemplated the instability of all things, you found the only One who is unchangeable, the transcendent Creator of all the world.

And having clung to him, you cast off the desire of transient things. Therefore, intercede for us that we may also obtain the divine love.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory…
O all-blessed Basil, you received the grace of miracles from heaven and exposed the errors of the heathen by your doctrines. You are the glory and support of bishops, and an example of the teachings of all the Fathers. Therefore having received favor with Christ, intercede with him for the salvation of our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Now and ever...

The all-good God was not ashamed to be circumcised in the flesh, but he offered himself as a symbol and an example of salvation to all.

For the Maker of the Law submitted himself to its commands and to what the prophets before-hand told of him. O our God who hold all things in your hands...
and yet were wrapped in swaddling-clothes, O Lord, glory to you!

The service continues with the Prayer of Simeon, page 19.

Troparia

Troparion of our holy Father Basil - Tone 1

Your voice re-sounds to the whole world which has received your word of instruction in divine dogmas. You explained the nature of creation and gave rules to order human conduct. O royal priest, O venerable father Basil, beg Christ our God to grant us his great mercy.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Troparion of the Circumcision - Tone 1

O Jesus, although you are seated on a fiery throne with the eternal Father and your divine Spirit, you were pleased to be born of a vir-
maid - en, your Moth - er who has nev - er known man. There - fore, as man you were al - so cir - cum-cised when you were eight days old. Glory to your most no - ble de - ci - sion! Glory to your sal - va - tion! Glory to your hu - mil - i - ty! You a - lone love us all.

Blessing of Bread and Psalm 33, p, 119.