The Circumcision of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ
Our holy father Basil the Great, bishop and ecumenical teacher

1. In his love for the human race, the Savior came to earth,
2. For each of us is circumcised and each with Christ has died
3. But when they left, he stayed behind; they went to temple, where,
4. For Basil, too, who taught your Church, who led your flock with care,

Was circumcised as Moses taught the eighth day after birth.
In Baptism, and also rose; and put our sins aside!
With doctors of the Law, he spoke “his Father’s business” there.
We give you thanks for all he did, for words and deeds so fair!

The Lord, the Maker of the Law fulfilled the Law’s commands
This Child, within His parents’ care, was filled with strength and grace;
For Mary, Mother of our God, who pondered in her heart
You crown the year with goodness, Lord; now bless the coming year,

That we, who could not save ourselves, be saved from sin’s demands.
When twelve, his parents and his kin brought him to keep the feast.
All things connected with her Son, we all our thanks impart!
That loving neighbor and our God, we live in grace and fear!

Text: J. Michael Thompson, based on the Vespers texts for January 1
Melody: Forest Green