

LAMMAS/ BLUE MOON - JULY 31, '04

Intro - Tonight we celebrate the Feast of First Fruits and a Blue Moon. An Aquarian full moon brings to light our need to challenge the status quo and our desire to work with kindred spirits to make a difference in the world. The Aquarius/Leo polarity works to unleash the potential power of the group through individual contributions.

"Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive and then go do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive." -Harold Thurman Whitman

Cleansing - enter the circle in perfect love and trust.

Calling the directions -

WEST: Raging river running wild, grotto's pool of deepest green, a cool dip in late summer night. Powers of water rise up with us.

All: Powers of water rise up with us.

NORTH: Fir and cedar, oak and maple; ravines deep in forest's night; rustle of green leaves. Powers of earth rise up with us.

All: Powers of earth rise up with us.

EAST: Rising wind and cool night breeze; hurricane and vaporous clouds, scent-laden air of late summer. Powers of air rise up with us.

All: Powers of air rise up with us.

SOUTH: Balefire crackling on the hill, welcome warm firelight, flickering of a candle's flame, lazy summer sun. Powers of flame rise up with us.

All: Power of flame rise up with us.

Casting the circle - Closed may this circle be / under the protection of the Goddess and the God / Protect and guide us, O Great Ones / For all who are within / Shall be between worlds / Until such time as it be opened. / Great Goddess and God / We invite you to be with us / And ask that you bless us with your presence at this rite.

Covenant - As we gather here in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are joined in spirit.

An invitation to sacrifice - An invitation has been issued to all interested parties willing to join the Reclaiming Community and the Pagan Cluster in raising a cone of power aimed towards global justice and cooperation, for the greatest good of ALL.

How will we feed this cone? Meditate for a while on the sacrifice we can make to empower our magic in 2004. To "sacrifice" means to "make sacred." We make a choice to act. What does the land need back from us at this First Harvest?

* What am I willing to let go of in order to have more time, money and/or energy to stand up for a cooperative role for the U.S. in the world?

* What do I need to let go of to help move towards a world with fresh air, clean water, a healthy ozone layer, sustainable agriculture for all of us? What privileges can I give up?

* What will most empower my spiritual work? Deeper honesty? Personal responsibility? Which sacrifice is mine to make?

Clarify your intentions; offer up that which no longer serves you nor the interconnected web of life.

Chant (*All*): *Return the gift / the gift of life / return the gift / the gift of peace....*

Communion: enjoy the fruits of First Harvest!

An invitation to gratitude: We take so much from the Mother that it is only right that--at this first harvest of the year--we should express that for which we are most grateful.

We have worked on WHAT we are willing to sacrifice, now let's remind ourselves of WHY.

Let go of how *we want things to be*, and spend a moment--a rare, blue-moon moment--exercising our power to *give back*.

Releasing the directions:

WEST: Powers of water, thank you for the gentle flow that helps maintain calm and emotional balance in relationships. Stay if you will, go if you must.

All: Blessed be.

NORTH: Powers of earth, thank you for the steadfastness and help in maintaining the home, health, work and comfort. Stay if you will, go if you must.

All: Blessed be.

EAST: Powers of air, thank you for the inspiration that helps with learning and understanding. Stay if you will, go if you must.

All: Blessed be.

SOUTH: Powers of flame, thank you for the energy that helps with the drive and ambition needed to accomplish goals. Stay if you will, go if you must.

All: Blessed be.

The circle is now open, but unbroken.

All: Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again!