

Lughnasa '11 with Treibh na Tintean (*try-v na tin-tawn*)

Meditation: (*We will be walking the labyrinth and placing our “first fruits” in the center. Chant: “Seeds of life that burn and thrive, seeds of plenty come alive.”*)

Calling the Directions:

EAST: Warm Airs that carry seeds to the waiting Earth, I call and charge you. Let your singing winds fill my heart and soul with the canticle of the Mysteries. Hail, Air, hail!

SOUTH: Warm rays of Sun that nurture seeds to maturity, I call and charge you. Let your burning flames forge and temper my spirit through the smelted fires of creation. Hail, Fire, hail!

WEST: Warm Water that saturates Earth's seeds to grow, I call and charge you. From you am I born, from the ocean's waves, by sea, and spray, and mist. Hail, Water, hail!

NORTH: Warm Earth that roots seeds in its womb, I call and charge you. Let your rich soil grant my spirit sanctuary in the house of the ancients. Hail, Earth, hail!

SPIRIT: Spirit who gives life to the seeds, I call and charge you. Let your presence bind the elements together and birth the grains of magic in me. Hail, Spirit, hail!

Casting:

SANDY: (*Athame in hand*) I draw this circle in the presence of the Goddess and the God where they may come and bless their children—the children of this tribe.... These stones are the boundary of the circle. Only love shall enter and leave. (*Ring bell 3x.*)

RICHARD: (*Athame into salt*) Salt is life and purifying. I bless this salt to be used in this sacred circle in the name of the Goddess and the God. (*3 portions salt into water and stir.*)

DENISE: (*Hands over bowl of water*) Let the blessed salt purify this water that it may be blessed to use in this sacred circle. In the name of the Goddess and the God, I consecrate and cleanse this water.

MIKE: (*Sprinkling the water around circle*) I consecrate this circle in the name of the Goddess and the God. This circle is conjured a circle of power this is purified and sealed. So mote it be!

SCOTT: (*Incense around circle.*) We are consecrated in the name of the Goddess and the God in this their circle. (*Bell is rung 3x.*)

ALL: We cast this circle as sons and daughters, / Spinners and weavers, / Toolmakers, potters; / As dancers and dreamers, / Fixers, changers, / Singers and screamers. / We cast this circle with our ancestors and guardians, / God and Goddess too, / You who teach and who speak true, / Who plant, who reap, / Who soar, who creep, / Who cook, who drum, / Who have been and yet to come, / Unreasonable women, / Unmanageable men. / We cast as pagan, heathen and witches, loving hearts or furious bitches. / We are sweet water, we are the seed; / we are the storm wind to blow away greed. / Into this circle we bring to birth the love that reclaims our earth.

Covenant: *(All)* As we gather here, in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit. So mote it be.

Invoking the Goddess: *(JOE)* Come, Great Goddess, Spirit of the Earth, whose body supports us; Mother of the Universe, whose milk is the stars; Spinner of fate, who weaves and measures our lives; Lady of Death, who cuts the thread; be welcome here as Queen of the Harvest.

Invoking the God: *(JANET)* Welcome, O Corn Lord, Golden-Haired son of Mother Earth & Father Sky; Lover of the sovereign Goddess of the land; Sacred King who meets death at the Queen's Hand—welcome!

The Dance of Lugh:

SANDY: Through the sacred union of the Lord and Lady, the harvest is assured.

RICHARD: May their power pass down to us, that we too may enjoy the gift of bounty. May the harvest grow and spread to all we love.

DENISE: May we draw the surplus from the land that our bodies be filled with strength.

MIKE: May the power of the Lord and Lady reach down to us that young and old alike may wax anew.

SCOTT: Ever turn the wheel. Ever onward.

SANDY: Today we honor Lugh, the many-skilled god. He is a patron of the arts, a master of trades and a silver-tongued bard. You left a small offering representing *your* creative harvest in the middle of the labyrinth. As Mike and Scott dance to honor Lugh, we will clap and call, "Lugh!" each time they meet around the circle. *(Mike clockwise outside the circle, Scott counterclockwise in the circle.)*

MIKE & SCOTT: Lord and Lady, we thank thee for all that has grown from the soil. May it continue to grow in strength. So mote it be!

Communion: Hail to Lammass; harvest, hail!
Blessed be the first-picked fruit!
Blessed be the hard travail,
And blessed be the living root.
Bless the furrow, bless the blade;
Bless the God for He must wane.
Bless the table all a-lade,
And bless the Wheel that turns again!

(Bring stuff from labyrinth and put in fire while serving communion.)

Thanking Goddess: *(women)* We thank You, Mother, for these gifts / for meal and bulbs and that which sifts. / Please bless these items with Your grace / and hold them dear within their space. / So as we eat, Your blessings flow / within, without—from head to toe.

Thanking God: *(men)* We thank You, God of Sun and Light / for warming us from dawn 'til night. For fertilizing all on Earth / for bringing us Your cheer and mirth. For laughter, joy, and shining ray / for guiding us along our way. And as You go, we hold You dear/ until the winter brings You near. And with the Yule, You're born anew / goodbye, dear Sun, we shall miss You.

Thanking Directions:

SPIRIT: Lord and Lady of Creation, thank you for watching over the seeds in the earth and in our hearts. Manifest this magic as you go in peace. Blessed be.

NORTH: Mother Earth, Your bounty sustains and blesses all. Let it nourish our spirits and bodies until we join You in this sacred space again. Go in peace, blessed be.

WEST: Lady of the Seas, of the cleansing, nourishing waters, thank you for lowing into this place and our lives. Let drops of wisdom within us as You go in peace. Blessed be.

SOUTH: Lord of the Sun, Master of the Fire, thank You for ripening the crops, and maturing our souls. Energize this magic as You go in peace. Blessed be.

EAST: Lord of the Wind, Your seed carries the promise of future harvests from this place. As we sow, so can we reap, and sow again. Go in peace, blessed be.

ALL: The circle is now open, but unbroken. Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again!