

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

- EAST:** “Litha, the summer solstice, is the longest day...a time of amazing bounty—the zenith of the year, high noon.
- SOUTH:** “It is a time of action—of doing, not simply being, and a time of the leap of faith.
- WEST:** “Action is always tempered by tension, as action can lead just as easily to failure as to success.
- NORTH:** “Litha marks the end of the waxing half of the year, as from this moment onward the days will begin to grow shorter as we progress toward autumn.
- SPIRIT:** “Therefore it is almost a frenzy of movement, of incredible brightness and exuberance—a last dance.”

~Dianne Sylvan, *The Circle Within*

Cleansing – [*choose the herbs, put in cauldron and smudge yourself*]

Calling the Directions

- EAST:** Air of Insight, breathe in this place; the Wheel of Time shall guide your pace. Keep safe the winds of muse and mind; within this circle, the magic bind. So mote it be!
- SOUTH:** Fires of Creation, within me burn for the Wheel of Life has turned. Keep safe the sun’s dynamic spark; throughout the world, ignite the dark. So mote it be!
- WEST:** Waters of Creation, within me flow; ‘round again the Wheel must go. Keep safe the dew of dusk and dawn; let magic prance upon the lawn. So mote it be!
- NORTH:** Loam of Fertility, nourish me; the Wheel’s lessons I wish to see. Keep safe the soil where roots can grow while ‘round the circle, magic sows. So mote it be!
- SPIRIT:** Spirit of Truth and psychic power, the Wheel has turned again this hour. Keep safe the light that warms the land, birth the magic where I stand. So mote it be!
- ALL:** So mote it be!

Casting (All) We cast this circle as sons and daughters, / Spinners and weavers,
Tool makers, 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, druid 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!

Invocation

the God - Father, Sun, and Brother / Who wears a cloak of bright blue sky / Whose breath stirs the forest / Whose love draws the harvest from the soil / I hear Your call in the wolf's song. / Teach me the holiness of joy, the sanctity of living. / I join You on the hillside / To dance in Your light / To reach for Your hand.

the Goddess - Juno, Hera, Queen, / Let all that is needed to be done, be done well. Let us sing of Your glory under the moon. / We are the arm that does Your work. / We are the mind of Your thoughts. / We are the conductor of Your power. / Juno, Hera, Queen, / we are the heart of Your love.

Dedication of the Circle's New Altar and Benches

Denise & Sandy: Great One of the Stars and Spinner of Fates, we do ask You in Your many names to bless these new additions to our circle, the new altar and benches. [*Sandy smudges them; Denise runs her direction candle around them.*]

Mike & Richard: Sun God, God of Fertility and Plenty, we ask You in Your many names to bless our new altar and benches—gifts from the Treibh. [*Mike sprinkles with full moon water; Richard scatters sea salt.*]

Scott: Mother Earth and Father Sun / We thank You for a job well done. / The Earth has greened and so have we / You've brought back perfect harmony. / Mother Earth and Father Sun / Pour out Your blessings one by one.

We Have Come To Be Danced!

All – We have come to be danced!

- not the pretty dance
- not the pretty, pretty, pick me, pick me dance

- but the claw-our-way-back-into-the-belly-of-the-sacred-sensual-animal dance
- the unhinged, unplugged, cat-is-out-of-its-box dance
- the holding-the-precious-moment-in-the-palms-of-our-hands-and-feet dance

All – We have come to be danced!

- not the jiffy booby, shake-your-booty-for-him dance
- but the wring-the-sadness-from-our-skin dance
- the blow-the-chip-off-our-shoulder dance
- the slap-the-apology-from-our-posture dance

All – We have come to be danced!

- not the monkey-see, monkey-do dance
- one, two, dance-like-you
- one, two, three, dance-like-me dance
- but the grave robber, tomb stalker, tearing-scabs-and-scars-open dance
- the rub-the-rhythm-raw-against-our-soul dance.

All – We have come to be danced!

- not the nice, invisible, self-conscious shuffle
- but the matted-hair-flying, voodoo mama, shaman-shakin'-ancient-bones dance
- the strip-us-from-our-casings, return-our-wings-sharpen-our-claws-and-tongues dance
- the shed-dead-cells-and-slip-into-the-luminous-skin-of-love dance.

All – We have come to be danced!

- not the hold-our-breath-and-wallow-in-the-shallow-end-of-the-floor dance
- but the meeting-of-the-trinity, the body-breath-and-beat dance
- the shout-hallelujah-from-the-top-of-our-thighs dance
- the mother-may-I? Yes, you-may-take-10-giant-leaps dance
- the olly, olly oxen-free, free, free! dance
- the everyone-can-come-to-our-heaven dance.

All – We have come to be danced!

- where the kingdom's collide in the cathedral of the flesh
- to turn back into the light
- to unravel, to play, to fly, to pray
- to root in skin sanctuary.

All – We have come to be danced! We have come!

--by Jewel Mathieson

Communion - Be sure to toast the anniversary of Jenna and David!

Blessing the Fey – (Janet and Joe) Leave a plate of food for the fairies; drizzle with honey and say:

Fey and Fairy-folk alike, / Leprechauns and Flitting Sprite,
We pay homage now to Thee; / upon You, may all blessings be.

Thanking the God and Goddess

God: Lord of all the wildlands / warrior and poet / the rising grain and the shining blade / as I have partaken of Your strength and surety / so may I carry them with me and share Your blessings with all the world. / Father of the Daybreak / Divine Friend / I am—as always—in Your service. / Blessed be!

Goddess: Thank you for being here in the soft buzzing grass / listening among the flowering gardens / shining from the most royal blue sky. / Thank You for granting our wishes / healthy lives rich with purpose / true partners to share joys and tears / wisdom to hear Your voice / wealth to give to others as You have given to us. / Blessed be!

Thanking the Directions

SPIRIT: Spirit of Light, move on, move on. With the ever-turning Wheel, go from this place, empowering the energy of magic. Blessed be!

NORTH: Loam of Earth, move on, move on. With the ever-turning Wheel, go from this place, planting the seeds of magic. Blessed be!

WEST: Water of Birth, move on, move on. With the ever-turning Wheel, go from this place, cresting with waves of magic. Blessed be!

SOUTH: Fires of Creation, move on, move on. With the ever-turning Wheel, go from this place, burning with the energy of magic. Blessed be!

EAST: Winds of Change, move on, move on. With the ever-turning Wheel, go from this place, carrying the air of magic. Blessed be!

ALL: The circle is open, yet remains; around us flows its magical power. Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again!

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