

Midsummer Solstice/Litha/Alban Hefin 2015

Treibh na Tíntean

Introductions:

Cleansing & Rededication:

Cauldron fire : (Scott) Mighty Sun God, God of Fertility and Plenty, we ask Your blessing. We give You honor and call upon You in many names—some ancient and some unknown.

Well water: (Denise or Jenna) Green Earth Mother—bless this water, we do ask. Great One of the Stars and Spinner of Fates, we do honor You and call upon You in many names—some ancient and some unknown.

ALL: Take turns dipping fingers into the water and blessing forehead and heart; then all will read the blessing.

We will serve and revere the Great Goddess and god. We are pagans, heathens, witches and druids; Stones of the ancient circle; Standing firmly balanced upon the earth, Yet open to the winds of the heavens; And enduring through time. May the Old Ones witness our words! So mote it be!

Travel to Fae circle

Fae circle blessing: (Dave) (Cast while lighting candles around the Fae circle)

‘We open the veil and call upon the Fae kin, join us in our celebration of the Solstice. Take our blessings on your journeys and bless us in kind, our little Brothers and sisters of the moon. So mote it be!

Enter ritual circle

Meditation: (David)

Close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths and relax. At this time of greatest light, we meditate on light as a symbol of spiritual energy. Breathe now gently and deeply and with each breath become aware of the light that surrounds you and the light that is within you- the light that is the energy of Our Great Mother. The light can be any color. It is often imagined as white- like bright sunlight. But it can be any color, any intensity that is best for you. Blue, green, yellow, purple, rose; we know that light can also be black. The light may stay the same color for you during this meditation or it may change from color to color, or become a blend of many colors. See the light now in your mind’s eye. The light is all around us, we are bathed in its brightness, energy and warmth. (Pause) Focus on the light until you sense that you and the light are one.

This will be your signal that you can bring the light inside you. (Pause) When you bring the light inside you, one way is to let it stream through your crown chakra at the top of your head (if it's already entered another way, that's okay.) The light- this healing energy- flows through you now, from your crown, down to your third eye (between your eyebrows) to your throat, your shoulders and your arms and your hands, to your heart, your stomach, shining brightly at your solar plexus just above your navel, to your sex organs, shining too at your tailbone. The healing light travels down through your legs, your knees, your ankles and your feet. Feel the warmth of this healing energy now as it travels through your body. (Pause) Now sense the one part of your body where the light can shine the brightest and imagine the light there. See it shine. (Pause) Now extend your light out from your body just a little more, then a little more, until the light extends a few feet from your body. Now, if you like, extend your light to reach your brothers and sisters. Our lights meet and we are connected by this great light, connected by our renewed knowledge of Our Great Mother. Take a few moments now to sense this energy and this connectedness. (Pause) Now take from this light the energy that you need, and know that there is plenty of it for all. For the Source of this light is endless and ever abundant. Take a moment to experience Her abundance, and know that as you partake of Her light and Her love, so do you give your light and your love. And as you give energy, so do you receive it. And thus does the circle of life continue. (Pause) And as we come back now to this time and place, let us give thanks for the return of Our Great Mother, and for our return onto Her.

Casting the Circle: Calling the God/Goddess (*ALL*)(*One time around*):

Closed may this circle be under the protection of the Goddess and of the Horned God. Protect and guide us, O Great Ones, for all who are within, shall be between worlds until such time as it be broken. O Great Goddess and Horned God, we invite you to be with us and ask that you bless us with your presence at this rite. ⁱⁱ

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!ⁱⁱⁱ

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!

Covenant:(*ALL- hold hands*): As we gather here in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit.

Holiday celebration:

East ():We celebrate Life on this Midsummer day! Sadness is set aside and joy flows within as the High Summer begins.

South (): The Light of the Sun, the God of Life, shines around us and in us for all the world to see.

North(): The Lord and Lady of the Greenwood have made Their pact. The Oak King turns his face to that of the Holly King so He may wed the Queen and pass into Her care.

West() The Life that enters the Lady's care is sanctified and purified in Her love. So mote it be!

All: Hail & Welcome Summer!!!

Sacrifice of the Wicker man () (Pass out ribbons and markers): Midsummer celebrates the apex of light at sacred sites around the world, such as Stonehenge. It is a time to connect our hearts with the alignment of the stars as we quest for knowledge and power, inner change and transformation. This is also sometimes symbolized by the crowning of the Oak King, the God of the waxing year. Upon crowning, the Oak King changes into his darker aspect- the Holly King, God of the waning year^{iv}. On the longest day the Sun God dies at sunset. The sacrificial death of the God in the form of the wicker man is celebrated on the longest day of the year, with reverence for the element of fire which ensures a bountiful harvest. The idea that destruction is sometimes necessary in order for re-birth to occur. Take a moment to write a wish or something that you would like to let go of on a piece of ribbon. We will tie these to our 'God' and he will take your wishes to the stars as he is consumed.
(Put Him in the fire!)

Communion:

Thanking :

God:(All Women) 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!^v

Goddess: (All Men) 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!

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

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!

labyrinth walking & drumming/dancing... smores... etc.!

ii Celtic Magic By D. J. Conway

ⁱⁱ *A Grimoire of Shadows* by Ed Fitch

ⁱⁱⁱ http://www.angelfire.com/wa3/angelline/litha_solitary_ritual.htm

^{iv} <http://secondsightresearch.tripod.com/bodyandsoul/id5.html>

^v **The Circle Within: Creating a Wiccan Spiritual Tradition** By Dianne Sylvan

^{vi} http://ladymorgana.com/cauldronclassroom/degree/degree3/third_lesson_03/litha_celebration.htm