

Mabon '14 w/ Treibh na Tintean [Elders' edition]

THE CHANT: *Deep in the earth I go. Deep in the earth I go.
Deep in the earth I go. Deep in the earth I go.
Hold my hand sister, hold my hand.
Hold my hand brother, hold my hand.*

THE CLEANSING: *[picnic table]* On this day when light and dark are equal, may you find the balance you need. Cleanse and purify yourself with sacred water.

THE QUESTION: *[bench across the shortcut]* Are you ready to harvest what was sown at Lammas? *[Regardless of answer, move a piece of paper from Lammas from one basket to another. Point them toward next station.]*

THE SACRIFICE: *[bench by the archway]* Of the plans not coming to fruition- what are you willing to give up on? *[Give baby acorn]* Some things planted are never able to grow.

[We need to be willing to restate our questions if folks do not understand. Be sure to have someone just past the archway to guide individuals into the circle.]

CALLING:

North— As the earth passes into the dark time, we turn to our inner golden harvest to nurture our spirits through the long winter. Earth of the North, be with us! *[Toss oatmeal into the fire.]*

[All] Earth, be with us!

East—As the summer breezes give way to chilly autumn winds, we see the blazing colors of our own harvests in the leaves of the trees. Air of the East, be with us! *[Toss....]*

[All] Air, be with us!

South—As the sun moves away from the earth, we ask the wise ones—the gods—to stoke our inner fires to ward off the chill of night. Fire of the South, be with us! *[Toss...]*

[All] Fire, be with us!

West—As the cool autumn rains wash over us and cleanse us, we reflect on the guidance of the gods. Water of the West, be with us! *[Toss....]*

[All] Water, be with us!

Spirit—The dark of the year is the true test of our spirits: we look into our own souls for the heart to do the inner work of the elemental Spirit. Spirit, be with us!

[All] Spirit, be with us!

CASTING:

Lammas was our time to sow in Your light. We harvest those seeds in Your name tonight.

We gather now for the harvest rite. Our spirits spiral in Your sight.

Guide us, teach us, be here now. Be what may: bind us to thee. Be what may: bind us to this circle. Be what may: bind us to thee. So mote it be!

COVENANT: As we gather here in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit.

INVOCATION:

Goddess [*one man*] Cerridwen waits in the dark with her cauldron. We have given that part of us that is the grain of the fields, the fruit of the branch. Soon enough She shall call for the remainder, which is our flesh. We go gladly, for to hang on to the past is to deny the hope, life and joy that waits for us.

[*All men*] To hang onto the past is to stop the wheel—to stop life. Goddess, we call you to our harvest.

God [*one woman*]*—*As we enter the dark, we turn our thoughts back on the past year to hunt for meaning. Cernnunos leads the hunt for our transformation. What did we experience, learn, harvest this year? Some moments are pleasant, some painful; but they are all sacred lessons that lead us on a path.

[*All women*] Love enough to forgive, not just those around you, but yourself as well! God, we call you to our harvest.

MABON MAGIC:

Spirit*—*The return of the God brings forth the winter nights. As the Goddess beckons us back to Her womb...

East*—*The Crone will tend our spirits. As the Wheel of the Year turns...

West*—*From the beginning to the end, we follow the Old Ones into the night—under their protection.

[*All*] Nurture us and guide us on our path.

North – On Lammas we planted for our harvests, asking the God and Goddess to help us nurture, grow and succeed.

South*—*Tonight, we gather our harvests. Some bring in their bounty. Some seeds may not have taken.

[*All*] By the will of the God and Goddess—going forward or beginning anew—our paths have been guided and illuminated. Blessed be!

SPIRAL DANCE:

We are the children of deity. We are part of the creative life force that moves the universe. We move with the spiral of the stars. And now we are going to spiral dance! How to—everyone hold hands, follow the leader dancing counter-clockwise (widdershins). We spiral toward the center of the circle. Keep winding in until we are close to the middle. When you are by the fire, turn and throw your baby acorn in—

release the harvest that will not be gathered. We will wind back out to the edges of the circle.

COMMUNION:

I am thankful for my health, because it allows me to feel well.

I am thankful for my children, for keeping me young.

I am thankful for my career, because each day I get paid to do what I love.

I am thankful for my job, because I am able to feed my family.

I am thankful for my garden, because it provides me fresh herbs.

[Each one says to the next] I am thankful for my Treibh sisters and brothers, because they make me feel spiritually complete....

THANKING:

[All] Cerridwen calls us all to the harvest. We thank Her for the gifts of the future. We go forth happily. Goddess, thank you! Blessed be.

[All] Cernnunos leads our hunt for sacred lessons. We thank Him for the transformations. God, thank you! Blessed be.

Spirit— At the Equinox, things are in balance: night and day, Goddess and God, life and death. We move into the dark time, taking our harvest from the light and reflecting on our future actions. Some seeds have sprouted—others we have released. Spirit, we thank you!

West—We can relax even in the autumn rains as we live with the guidance of the Gods. Water of the West, thank you!

South—We stoke our inner fires with the wisdom we have gathered from our fields. Fire of the South, thank you!

East—The chilly fall winds show us the beautiful colors of our own harvests. Air of the East, thank you!

North—We have begun to gather our inner harvest to prepare for the cold. Earth of the North, thank you!

[All] We look to the darkness for renewal and rebirth. Merry meet, merry part and merry meet again!