

OSTARA/SPRING EQUINOX '06

MEDIATION AND CLEANSING – (Mike)

PROCESS TO CIRCLE – chant, “As the Wheel turns, I feel summer in the spring!”

DIRECTIONS –

WEST: Spirits of the West, spirits of water, wash us in gentle rain, revive our longing and join us in celebration of boundless possibility. Blessed be.

NORTH: Spirits of the North, spirits of earth, clothe us in the finery of new growth, support our steps and join us in celebration of a world made green again. Blessed be.

EAST: Spirits of the East, spirits of air, awaken us with the Spring breeze, fill our lungs and join us in celebration of the endless renewal of light and life. Blessed be.

SOUTH: Spirits of the South, spirits of fire, warm us with the rising sun, quicken our hearts and join us in celebration of the unfolding of the Earth. Blessed be.

CASTING – (begin in west) And now we cast the Circle / for Mother, whose Cauldron is the dark soil; / for Oak King, who brings us new Spring; / for Holly King whose thoughts live in us as dreams. The Circle is now cast.

COVENANT – (All) As we gather here in our sacred space, a circle is formed, and we are connected in spirit.

INVOCATION OF GOD & GODDESS –

God of the growing light, wielder of the flaming arrow—sink deep into the Earth the shaft of fire, warming the world, bringing the spring.

Goddess Ostara, Springtime Queen—work again the ancient magic, and bring new growth to our land.

Goddess, God, guardian spirits, power of the stars above and the Earth below—bless this time, this place, and all who gather here. Blessed be!

OSTARA VOW – (All) (Light the Equinox candle)

The Wheel turns on, 'tis Ostaratide: dusk and dawn abreast now ride-
Bright and dark, quiet and clamor; tinder and spark, reserve and enamor.
This balance I vow to make my own, poise will allow my pow'r to be known.
From balance, the Wheel now turns toward light; with grace and steel, I affirm the same right.

(Pass bowl of water around to collect stones; pass basket for non-waterproof items.)

CRYSTAL CLEANSING –

Let me dip you in the water, thou beautiful gem of Power!
In water of purest wave, which pure was kept by Brigit.
A blessing on the gem,
A blessing on the water,
and a healing of all bodily ailments to each suffering creature.

EGG BASKET BLESSING –

The cycle of life again comes to pass, I place an egg all nestled in grass;
in a basket of straw, the Goddess' womb, a place to meet the God, returned from the tomb.
Life again is reborn this day, in the womb of Eostre, in the basket of May;
female and male in the Great Rite Balance, new life is born from their spring dalliance.

FEAST - Eat, drink and be merry! We have survived another winter!

SEED BLESSING –

Ostara, Maiden of Spring, I call.
Bright, fresh presence, come to me.
Bless these seeds and bless me too,
to grow in health and energy.
Guide me to my highest good.
This is my will, so mote it be!

SPIRAL DANCE – (Scott will drum)

THANKS TO GOD AND GODDESS -

God of the growing light, / wielder of the flaming arrow / for the warmth / for the lengthening day / for the energy that surrounds us / for your presence within our circle-- / we thank you, and ask your blessing, / until we gather here again. Blessed be!

Goddess Ostara, Springtime Queen / for your love / for your power / for the ancient magic / for the fertility of the world we share / for your presence within our circle-- / we thank you, and ask your blessing, / until we gather here again. Blessed be!

THANKS TO DIRECTIONS AND OPENING THE CIRCLE -

WEST: Spirits of the West, we thank you for your presence here and ask for your blessing as you depart. May there be peace between us now and forever.

NORTH: Spirits of the North, we thank you for your presence here and ask for your blessing as you depart. May there be peace between us now and forever.

EAST: Spirits of the East, we thank you for your presence here and ask for your blessing as you depart. May there be peace between us now and forever.

SOUTH: Spirits of the South, we thank you for your presence here and ask for your blessing as you depart. May there be peace between us now and forever.

All: The circle is open, yet unbroken. May the love of the Goddess be ever in your heart. Merry meet and merry part, and merry meet again! Blessed be!

POST-RITUAL/PRE-DINNER EGG HUNT FOR INTERESTED PARTIES - in church while we set up food and drink!