

Samhain '13 with Treibh na Tinteán—We begin anew.

Solemn Supper

Passing the Veil—[smudge and pick up your slip of paper]

Calling the Directions—

EAST: The East is a land of new beginnings, the place where breath begins. Spirits of Air, we call upon you, knowing you will be with us as we depart life. So mote it be!

SOUTH: The South is a land of sunlight and fire, and your flames guide us through the cycles of life. Spirits of Fire, we welcome you, knowing you will transform us in death. So mote it be!

WEST: The West is a place of underground rivers, and the sea is a never-ending, rolling tide. Spirits of water, we welcome you, knowing you will carry us through the ebbs and flows of our life. So mote it be!

NORTH: The North is a place of cold, and the Earth is silent and dark. Spirits of the Earth, we welcome you, knowing you will envelope us in death. So mote it be!

SPIRIT: Tonight we remember those who have lived and died before us, those who have crossed through the veil. We will remember (*light black candle*). The Wheel of the year turns once more, and we cycle into darkness (*light white candle*). At the end of the darkness comes light. And so we celebrate Life, Death and Rebirth.

Calling the Goddess & God—

THE GODDESS:

We light three candles for the Triple Goddess: white for the Glorious Maiden, who is youth and new beginnings, dawn and the planted seed. Red is for the Great Mother, who is magic and plenty, love and knowledge. Black is for the Dark Crone Mother, who is wise night, death and rebirth.

[*All*] We welcome the Goddess in all of her aspects.

THE GOD:

We light three candles for the Triple God: yellow for the Bright Sun King, who is success and plenty. Green is for the Horned God of the Woodlands, who is fertility and growth. Black is for the Dark Lord of the Underworld—Consort of the Crone, who is protection and rest.

[*All*] We welcome the God in all of his aspects.

Casting the Circle—

[*All*] These woods are dark, this path is shadowed. Walk with me, Lord and Lady. Hunter of the Forests, stand at my back. Star-eyed Protectress, fold your wings around me. Hold me fast, I pray; and banish all fear.

We stand together in the darkened wood, by the light of the stars, between past and future--where night and day, birth and death, joy and sorrow, meet as one. We are between the worlds, beyond the bounds of time: the earth below us, the heavens above us, and the circle around us. This is sacred time, this is sacred space. So mote it be!

Covenant— [All] As we gather here in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit.

Opening the Portal—

[All] All beloved spirits who walk this night—hearken! Harken to our call! We bid you in our circle join!
Enter, enter, one and all!

Come ye, spirits of beloved dead: be ye spirit of person, plant or pet. Into this circle you are let!

Speak to us of things unknown! Lend your energies to this rite! To speed your journey, we have joined on this sacred Samhain night!

All beloved spirits who walk this night—hearken! Harken to my call! I bid you in our circle join!
Enter, enter, one and all!

Blessing the Runes—from Sha!

This is Othala, which represents our inheritance, our heritage, and reminds us where we came from. With this rune, we honor those who came before us. With the veil at its thinnest, we seek ways to remember our honored departed loved ones. Remember them, whether it be with joy or challenge, and thank them for their influence and their hand in your creation. Hold tight and honor those values that uplift, release those that do not.

At this time, hold the rune and with focus, charge it with the memories and blessings of the ancestors. When you have a need, look upon it asking their guidance and wisdom.

Many Blessings—Reading from Jeanette Le-Blanc

Blessed be. Blessed be. Blessed be....

Silent Meditation—

Communion—

Blessing the Faery Statue—

Mark and Sha have donated this wonderful faery statue to the circle. In order to welcome it and to thank them, please extend a hand in blessing while our faery shrine tenders read the poem “The Faery Ride” by Ella Young.

Katie & Erin: “Forget the hearth, / forget the roof, / set the wheel aside: / leave your weaving, / warp and woof,
Steal out to us this Samhain-Tide.

“Steal out to us, our tossing hair / sets sun and moon and stars aflare. / The racing winds are hounds beside / the cloud-maned horses that we ride. / Come ride with us, have heart to dare / the plunging steed; the steeds of air; / the swirling, high, tumultuous flight, / the aery hooves—this Samhain Night!”

Releasing the Ancestors—

[Mike] Every beginning has an ending, and every ending is a new beginning. In life is death and in death is life. Watch over us, our loved ones, and all of our brothers and sisters, here and departed, who are joined together tonight again in fellowship and joy. Bless us all as we light our hearth fires, and the eternal fires in our hearts.

[All] Protect and guide us tonight and throughout the coming year. We reluctantly release your spirits. Stay if you will, go if you must. Take with you our love, our gratitude, our wishes for peace.

Thanking the Goddess, God & the Directions—

N: As the New Year is born in the cold and dark, we are all reborn with new hopes and dreams.

W: Remind us that as we try to fulfill our goals, success ebbs and flows like the tides.

S: Transform us with Your strength, courage and knowledge.

E: As we pull in breath, let us also pull in your guidance as we have in the past.

[All]: We give thanks, Lord and Lady, for Your presence here and Your continued blessings. / We give thanks for the Earth, Air, Fire and Water all around who are also a part of us. / Walk with us, Lord and Lady, abide in our steps, now and always. / Blessed Be.

[All]: This Samhain circle is open, but unbroken. Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again!

[Cast of "characters": Directions calling = elders; Calling the Goddess = Melissa & Alyssa; Calling the God = Dave & Mark; Casting the circle = Jenna & Rebecca; Rune blessing = Sha; Silent meditation = Mike; Faery blessing intro = Rita, reading the Faery poem = Katie & Erin]