

## Brewer's Rite Trillium 2007 (as-performed)

In preparation the following symbols and offerings have been assembled:

Honoree	Symbol/equipment	Offering
Outdwellers	Biodegradable bowl	Honey, water, grain
Earth Mother	Offering bowl	Grain (ideally barley)
Kvasir	Offering cup	Alcohol
Land/sea/sky	Offering& water bowls as above	Herbs&spices / water / yeast
Fire/well/tree	Stove, cauldron, wooden spoon	Gas or electricity / honey /
Gatekeeper	Offering cup as above	Alcohol
Nature spirits	Offering bowl as above	Fruit
Ancestors	Offering bowl as above	Bread
Gods & Goddesses	Offering cup as above	Alcohol
Aegir	Offering cup as above	Homebrew
fellowship	The must in the cauldron	Water, spices, honey, etc.

### Additional Supplies:

Large brew-pot (2-3 gallon size at a minimum)      Hygrometer  
 Primary fermenter (Bucket-type carboy)              Honey  
 Yeast nutrient and yeast, if the festival timing requires they be added.

### General Preparation:

Fill stock-pot with water & warm on stove in advance. Sanitize carboy. Clean up Space, lay out all brewing equipment. Ensure hygrometer is clean and target gravity is handy, if the intent is to have the must ready for yeast the next day.

Be certain to double-check all offerings beforehand, so that you do not overuse offered herbs or spices, or even over-honey the mead! Offerings of clean water are also appropriate.

**Hallows:** Well = "Cauldron" = Cook-pot. Fire = Stove/Heat Source. Tree = Wooden spoon

**Parts:** Brewer 1 (key/leader), Brewer 2, Brewer 3, Offerer to Earth Mother

Pronunciations of words which may be unfamiliar appear as *phauloughs* [follows] ;-)

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## Initiating The Rite

*(musical note, perhaps a bell, is sounded)*

**Brewer 1:** We are at the brewing hall to begin that which will transform our water, honey, and other ingredients into a drink that satisfies and is fit for the gods. We begin this work in fellowship.

**All: So be it.**

## Purification

**Brewer 1:** When brewing, it is important to ensure all is properly clean. Let us clean in preparation for our work. *(all process to sink and wash hands)*

## Outdwellers:

**Brewer 1:**

You who ferment weirdly,  
You who put the off taste in the wine,  
You who seek to trespass in our brews,  
We have prepared this for you.  
Play in it, and not in our wine.

*(place honey, water, and grain into biodegradable bowl at edge/away, if outside)*

**RL:** Having sent those contrary to brewing away, let us clean ourselves.

*(Depending on facilities, all wash hands symbolically or actually.)*

## Honoring the Earth Mother *(From a rite by Selene Tawny)*

**Offerer to Earth Mother:**

We give this gift to you Mother **Nerthus**, springing forth this day. [near-thus]  
Look kindly on our work, **Berchta**, grand dame of the wheel, [birk-ta]  
Spin us good **wyrd** this day. [weird]  
O Mighty Mother of us all, Pray, fill our house with joy.  
Earth Mother, accept our sacrifice. *(place grain in bowl)*

**All: Earth Mother, accept our sacrifice.**

## Precedent

**Brewer 1:** We assemble here, at the brewing hall, to make mead together. Our ancestors made honey wine for many reasons, but today our mead is one of fellowship, for we each will contribute. We ask the Kindreds for their aid in this mysterious transformation that is a fermentation of art, science, and faith.

## Bardic Inspiration

**Brewer 1:** *(pours a cup and holds it forth, as a toast)*

Kvasir! Made from the spit of all the gods, there is no question you cannot answer.

Slain by dwarves, your blood was made into the mead of inspiration.

Today, as we make mead, inspire our words. *(pours libation into cup)*

Kvasir, accept our sacrifice.

**All: Kvasir, accept our sacrifice.**

## Re-creating the Cosmos

### Grounding and Uniting with the Two Powers

*Brewer 1 leads the Two Powers Meditation, allowing the group to connect to the Earth and Sky Powers. It is best if the Two Powers imagery is adjusted for the work to be done; considering the Earth Power as Water and the Sky Power as Fire, being mixed to produce Fire-in-Water, works well.*

### Land, Sea, and Sky

**Brewer 1:** We stand here on the Land, with the Sea around us and the Sky above us.

The Land gives us honey, herbs, and spices.

**All: So we give the Land some back.** *(herbs/spices into bowl)*

**Brewer 2:** The Sea gives us water.

**All: So we give the Sea some back.** *(water into cup)*

**Brewer 3:** The Sky gives us yeast.

**All: So we give the Sky some back.** *(yeast into bowl)*

### Fire, Well, and Tree

**Brewer 1:** Fire, warmer of the world.

Fire, bright purifier.

Fire, we feed you; give us heat. *(Fuel Fire (turn it up, if a stove))*

**All: Fire, we feed you; give us heat.**

**Brewer 2:** Well, holder of the ancient waters.

Well, connection to the ancestors.

Well, we sweeten you; slake our thirst *(Pour initial jar of honey into Well)*

**All: Well, we sweeten you; slake our thirst.**

**Brewer 3:** Tree, at the waters and at the fire.

Tree, long axis of wood.

Tree, we bring you here; join the worlds. *(Stir Tree in Well)*

**All: Tree, we bring you here; join the worlds.**

## Opening the Gates

**Brewer 1:** Valkyries, you travel the worlds to retrieve the slain.

Valkyries, you bear the mead in Valhalla.

As we make our mead here, we ask your aid in bridging the worlds that it be made rightly.

Valkyries, accept our sacrifice!

**All: Valkyries, accept our sacrifice!**

**Brewer 1:** Now, mead-bearing Valkyries, join your magic with ours.

Let the fire light our sacred brewery.

Let the well be the Triple Wells.

Let the tree be Yggdrasil, High and Low before us.

Let the gates be open!

**All: Let the gates be open!**

## Inviting The Three Kindreds

**Brewer 1:** Landvettir, spirits of nature, you who brought that long-mysterious noble rot that lets us brew, you who first gave us honey, be with us today. (*offers fruit into bowl*)

Land-spirits, accept our offering!

**All: Land-spirits, accept our offering!**

**Brewer 2:** Ancestors, Mighty brewers, you who learned and preserved the knowledge of how to brew, be with us today. (*offers bread into bowl*) Ancestors, accept our offering.

**All: Ancestors, accept our offering!**

**Brewer 3:** Gods, Goddesses, Aesir, Vanir, you who, like us, enjoy the brew that combines the fire and the water into a single drink, be with us today. (*offers into cup*) Godden, accept our offering.

**All: Godden, accept our offering!**

## Key Offerings: Honoring the Deities Of The Occasion

**Brewer 1:** Aegir, Master Brewer, at whose hall the ale flows from the walls, come to us on this day of brewing. Grant us skill and aid in our efforts. (*offer homebrew into cup*)

Aegir, accept our offering!

**All: Aegir, accept our offering!**

## General Praise Offerings

Now, let us make offerings of supplies to the Kindreds that they might bless us with a mead through our efforts. Place these offerings into our cauldron, to be shared with all.

## Prayer of Sacrifice (by Ian Corrigan)

**Brewer 1:** Now, let our voices ascend on the heat of the fire; Let our voices resound in the well; Let our call pass the gate to the land of spirits.

Holy kindreds: Gods, Ancestors and Landvettir: The Children of Earth send you love and honor with this gift. (*second jar of honey is poured into the Well as possible*)

Holy Ones, accept our sacrifice!

**All: Holy Ones, accept our sacrifice!**

**Holy Ones, accept our sacrifice!**

**Holy Ones, accept our sacrifice!**

### Omen

**Brewer 1:** Having prayed to the powers, let us open ourselves to them, and ask what blessings they offer us in return. (*Seer divines regarding the rite; the exact questions should be decided beforehand.*)

### Calling (Asking) For The Blessings

**Brewer 1:** Godden, Landvettir and Ancestors, we have praised you and received your blessings. Hallow these waters with your transformative might, that we might brew well today and into the future.

### Affirmation of the Blessing

*(Ladle out some warm must for sharing)*

**Brewer 1:** We know the must will transform to mead over the next year, carrying the blessings that have been bestowed upon it. Brewers, do you wish to receive these blessings?

**All: Yes!**

**Brewer 1:** Then let us partake of these blessings. (*Drink must*)

### Workings

**Brewer 1:** We have created this must using things that are from us - but not of us. Let us now also give more directly of ourselves, with each of us in turn stirring the must.

*(each attendee stirs a full revolution in turn)*

**Brewer 1:** Now, having prepared this brew, we set it aside to cool.

*(if possible, contents of brew-pot are poured into primary fermenter)*

### Thanking the Kindreds

**Brewer 1:** We have called upon the Kindreds for aid in our work. Having begun it well, we thank them for their help both today and as this batch continues to mature.

Aegir, Master brewer,

**All: We thank you!**

**Brewer 1:** Valkyries, Mead-bearers,

**All: We thank you!**

**Brewer 1:** Kvasir, Mead-blooded,

**All: We thank you!**

**Brewer 1:** Godden, Nature Spirits, and Ancestors,

**All: We thank you!**

## Closing the Gates

**Brewer 1:** Now by the keeper of the gates and by my magic we end what we began.

Let the fire be flame, Let the well be water, Let the tree be wood.

Let all be as it was before. Let the gates be closed!

**All: Let the gates be closed!**

## Thanking The Earth Mother

**Offerer to Earth Mother:** Nerthus, Earth Mother, we walk upon you every day but never forget you. In gratitude for all your gifts, we say:

**All: We thank you!**

## Closing The Rite

**Brewer 1:** We have done as our ancestors have done, with the Kindreds' aid. The brewing process has begun.

The ritual is at a close. So sind sie!

**All: *So sind sie!*                      *[so sinned see]***