

OUTDWELLERS

Within each of us dwell forces that bring chaos into our lives, those influences that pollute our hearts and minds. *(pause)* These forces also dwell within our world and threaten to destroy our planet, our Mother Earth. Let us remember these things and the strife that they bring. *(pause)* Let us recognize their power and influence; their purpose. *(pause)*

And with this token *(a token is held before all who have gathered)* may we seek to end our unhealthy relationships with them.

A token is laid beyond the ritual space in silence.

May we be free of the chaos that threatens to overwhelm our work and our world!

So be it!

All: So be it!

PROCESSION

In Song

Earth my body,

Water my blood,

Air my breath

And Fire my spirit.

(author of chant unknown)

All participants will be censed and asperged during the processional chant the Nemeton will also be censed and asperged during this time. Repeat chant until all participants and the worship area has been censed and asperged.

MUSICAL SIGNAL-A singing bowl rings 3x3 times.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This eve we gather to worship and honor the Earth our Mother.

Together with others across the world we remember HER on this day.

As we remember HER, we shall call upon the aid of our allies: the Spirits of Nature, our Ancestors and our Gods to join with us to rebuild our cosmos and heal our world.

This night we shall sing our praise and make our sacrifice to the Earth herself that we may continue to receive her blessings in return.

May all who gather this eve, be welcome among us!

OPENING BLESSINGS

All in song

Earth Mother, We sing to your body,

Earth Mother, We sing to your bones,

Earth Mother, We honor your body,

Earth Mother, We honor your stones.

(lyrics and music written by an unknown author)

Earth Mother, accept our offering!

An offering of bread is made.

All: Earth Mother, accept our offering!

INVOCATION FOR INSPIRATION

Heralds of the Hero's Hall

Skalds of the Saga's Stage

Bards of the Boldest and Brave

Gift us with your grace.

Pour down your eloquence

Insight our words

Inspire our songs

Light the fire in the head!

An offering of honey is made.

Beings of Inspiration, accept our offering!

All: Beings of Inspiration, accept our offering!

AFFIRMATION OF UNITY

Let us now raise our voice as one people.

All:

The ocean is the beginning of the earth

The ocean is the beginning of the earth

The ocean is the beginning of the earth

All life comes from the sea: All life comes from the sea

Chant by Delaney Johnson & Starhawk

FIRE, WELL & TREE

To the fire

Kindled of the hearth fire

Scared flame upon the Earth

Joining together hearts and minds

Darkness banished before the roaring blaze

Transcending the realm of light and shadow

Purifier and cleanser of mind, body and spirit

Sacred fire, prepare to open the way to the Shining Ones.

An offering of incense is made into the fire.

Sacred flames, burn within this fire!

To the well

Threshold to the Otherworld

Window to the souls

Cauldron of inspiration

Sacred shrine of old

Ford of cleansing waters

Vessel of rebirth

Sacred well prepare to open a path to the Ancestors.

An offering of silver is made into the well.

Sacred waters, flow within this well!

To the bile

Mighty oak of the ancient grove

Roots burying deep within the Underworld

Wise teacher of traditions old

Branches reaching into the heavens.

Keeper of sacred knowledge

Pillar joining Earth and Sky; spanning the three worlds

Road to all realms; Sacred tree,

Let all who walk this way walk in your wisdom.

The bile is asperged with water from the well and censed with incense

INVOCATION TO THE GATEKEEPER

Oh, Ancient Ones of Might and Magic,

We call to Eldest and Wisest of the Worlds,

We seek a Priest of the Sacred Fire...

To aid us in our work...

To join their magic with our own...

And open the way between the worlds.

Alcohol is offered.

Fire Priest, accept our offering!

All: Fire Priest, accept our offering!

As the worlds converge within this place let us raise our voices in song to the Gatekeeper!

All in song

Sing through my voice,

Play through my hands,

Let the way be open!

Repeat chant three times

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OPENING THE GATES

Fire Priest; let us stand at the center of all worlds!

Sacred Fires ignite the waters of the earth.

Primal Waters, feed the order of the cosmos.

World Tree, join the heavens with the earth.

Striking a sigil over the fire.

Let these flames carry our praise and sacrifice to the Shining Ones.

Striking a sigil over the well.

Let these waters carry our praise and sacrifice to the Mighty Dead.

Striking a sigil upon the tree.

Let this tree connect the worlds as they become one in this place.

By the land before us!

By the seas about us!

By the sky above us!

Let the Gates Be Open!

All: Let the Gates Be Open!

We now stand at the center of all worlds!

KINDRED OFFERINGS

We call to the Mighty Kindred of the land, sea and sky.

We call to those of the Middle realm, of the Underworld and of the Heavens!

We seek an alliance with the Spirits of Nature, who share the Earth with us!

We seek the wisdom of our Ancestors, who walk this Land before us!

And we seek the aid of our Gods and Goddesses, who bless our work and our world!

Noble, Mighty and Shining Ones stand with us as we seek to heal the Earth and honor the Mother.

Oil is offered to the Kindred.

Mighty Kindred, accept our offering!

All: Mighty Kindred, accept our offering!

Let us raise our voices in song to the Kindred.

Let our voices arise on the fire,

Let our voices resound in the deep,

Let the Kindred accept what we offer,

As we honor the old ways we keep.

Repeat 3x

Sonoran Sunrise Grove, ADF

Honoring the Earth Mother

We call to the Ancient One of ever changing beauty

To the Primal Mother of this Earth

To the Great Goddess of Sovereignty

Let us be renewed by your waters

Cradled within your mantel of green,

And sustained by your abundance.

We endeavor to keep the Old Bargain

To tread lightly as we walk upon the Earth,

To use your gifts, our resources, wisely,

Let us conserve your blessings as we are able,

And heal you through our will and our work.

An offering of bread is made.

Earth Mother, accept our offering!

All: Earth Mother, accept our offering!

Mighty Mother of this Earth, we honor you!

All: Mighty Mother of this Earth, we honor you!

PRAISE OFFERINGS

At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to the Earth. ***All participants are given an opportunity to give praise offerings to the Earth.***

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor the Earth, our Mother, who supports and sustains us.

This night a gift calls for a gift let us keep the Ancient Bargain and make our sacrifice!

SACRIFICE

Oh, Ma Ma Ma (*group chant and dance*)

By Emerald of Sassafras Grove

THE OMEN

The Seer will take and pronounce the omen

BLESSING OF THE WATERS

The following words will be spoken over the pitchers.

As in the ways of old we have given our gifts freely and as in the ways of old a gift is given unto us in return.

We will drink deep of the Cup of Inspiration. May the blessings of health, wealth and wisdom be ours.

Earth Mother, give us the waters!

All: Earth Mother, give us the waters!

We gather with you between Earth and Sky. We are proud to call ourselves your people.

Once again, Earth Mother, give us the waters!

All: Earth Mother, give us the waters!

We have brought our offerings. We have made our sacrifice.

One last time, Earth Mother, give us the waters!

All: Earth Mother, give us the waters!

The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.

Hallowing the Waters

Behold the Waters of Life!

Great Goddess of Sovereignty, hear and bless us.

Mighty Mother of the Earth hallow these Waters of Life.

An officiate lifts the pitchers before the participants.

Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

As the blessings are passed as the Bard leads the chant.

Blessing of the Waters

The earth, the air, the fire, the water: Return, return, return, return.

The earth, the air, the fire, the water: Return, return, return, return.

Aye ay aye ay aye ay aye ay: Aye oh aye oh aye oh aye oh.

Aye ay aye ay aye ay aye ay: Aye oh aye oh aye oh aye oh.

(author of chant unknown)

THE WORK

Closing your eyes and breathing deeply, reaffirm your connection to the waters below, to the fire of the heavens above, to your allies among the Kindred and to each other.

See the waters support and surround us.

Flowing from deep within the Underworld below,

Sacred waters flow within the rivers, lakes and streams; purify the waters of our world. Sacred waters fill the oceans and seas; cleanse our world as you rain down from the heavens above.

See the land extends about us.

Within the Middlerealm, feel the winds that blow from the four directions.

From the North see the black wind of strength as it covers the land in its protection. Feel the vitality and stability it brings to our world. (pause)

From the South hear the white wind of song and see it breathe new life and energy in to the Mother of the Earth. (pause)

From the East see the red wind of bounty sweeping across the Earth bringing with it growth and prosperity to this land. (pause)

Finally, from the west blows a twilight wind. See this wind as it whirls across the land bringing with it the seeds of knowledge and inspiration; of wisdom. (pause)

At the center of these winds, the strength of the North, song of the South, bounty of the East and wisdom of the West wind converge and from this place grows the sacred tree anew.

See the sky stretches above us.

From the Heavens above, comes the illuminating radiance of the first fire. See this radiant light burn away all ill, restoring order from chaos and bring healing to the Mother of this Earth. See this light as it fills all that has been left empty as it was cleansed. Feel the power of the Heavens as it brings its healing warmth to the winds. See the sacred spark burn within the belly of the Earth and within the hearth

fires of all who have gathered in HER honor. For at the center of all burns a living flame. As you open your eyes...

All:

Let us pray with a good fire.
May all the Kindred bless us.
May our worship be true.
May our actions be just.
May our love be pure.
Blessings and honor and worship to the Mother of Earth.

Land, Sea & Sky Text inspired by Ceisiwr Serith and the Four Airs text inspired by Rev. Ian Corrigan, modified by Rev. Carrion Mann.

THANKING THE BEINGS

Kindred we thank you for your guidance, wisdom and blessings. (a final token is offered) May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Kindred, we thank you!
All: Kindred, we thank you!

Beings of Inspiration, we thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence. (a final token is offered) May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Beings of Inspiration, we thank you!
All: Beings of Inspiration, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

Mighty Priest of the Sacred Fire, we thank you for tending our fire and warding the way between the worlds with us. (A final token is offered) May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Fire Priest, we thank you!
All: Fire Priest, we thank you!

Ancient Priest of the Sacred Fire, we now ask that you aid us in closing the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more. Let the fire burning towards the heavens once more become, but flames.

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more Become, but water.
Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become, but wood.
By the land before us!
By the seas about us!
By the sky above us!
Let the Gates be closed!
All: Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER

Earth Mother we thank you for the blessings you have shared with us. May you continue to support and sustain us, upholding and blessing our work and world (**a final token is offered**)
May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.
Earth Mother, we thank you!
All: Earth Mother, we thank you!

We now return all that has gone unused to the Earth and the Sky, may they continue to support, surround and sustain us. All offerings that remain are burnt in the fire or scattered upon the Earth.

STATEMENT OF ENDING

Unmerging, Regrounding & Recentering: Meditation

Once more take a few deep cleansing breaths as we reaffirm our center (**pause 4 count**). We stand together at the center of all worlds, upon the land, beneath the sky, surrounded by the sea. We span the worlds, connecting earth and sky and the Kindred as one (**pause 4 count**).

Remember that below us flows the primal waters filled with the potential of all life. It is these waters that surge through your very being. (*pause 8 count*)

Remember that above us burns the primal fires filled with the spark of all life. It is these powers that have illuminated the waters that surge through you. (*pause 8 count*)

The primal powers of fire and water unite within us bringing new life and balance to our beings. Our hearts beat with the very pulse of all worlds (*pause 8 count*)

Remember that we share these worlds with the Spirits of Nature, with the Ancestors and with the Gods. As they bless us, offer their wisdom and guidance let us forever remember the old bargain.

Remember the powers of earth and sky, the sacred fire and waters, that flow within you... take what you need to maintain balance and release back to the earth and sky all that has gone unused. Know that the fire and water that flows from us helps to sustain the worlds, the realms and the Kindred as we conclude our worship.

May all that is be what was, that it may be again!

Musical Signal- *A singing bowl rings 3X3.*

All: We will keep the faith until the sky falls upon us and crushes us; until the earth opens and swallows us; until the seas arises and overwhelm us.

Recessional Chant

Once more may we now raise our voices in song as we leave our Nemeton.

For All Time

*The sky fuels the waters
And the waters sustain the skies
We walk together from this place*

With the honored as our guides

*Strong in our purpose
We balance and survive
From many wells of fortitude
Our spirits are revived*
CHORUS

*Joyous in our sharing
We honor dead and alive
With voices of sacred wisdom
We travel the path of our lives*

CHORUS

*Fulfilled in our learning
Our souls will always thrive
In our varied hearts and minds*

We keep the sacred for all time

CHORUS

(lyrics by Isaura; music by Raven of the Sorrows)

Earth Day Ritual 2014

*Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)*

Rev. Carrion Mann

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