Samhain

Ritual written* and led by Tidal Wolf (Friday 13 May 2011)



CERNUNNOS: "We are one, in our grove, upon the earth, within the sea, beneath the sky. We are joined, to send our call, To the hounored dead, to the spirit folk, to the blessed gods. We praise thee, in one voice, in our sacred grove. We are one.

EAST: (lights the eastern candle) Let there be light kindled from the spirit. Blessed be this eastern gate and blessed be the element of Air. Oh Guardians of the Eastern Tower, Airy ones of healing power I do summon, stir and call you. See these rites and guard this circle! Hail and Welcome!

SOUTH: (lights the southern candle) Let there be a light increasing and illuminating the south. Blessed be this Southern Gate and Blessed be the element of Fire. Oh firey ones of Southern Power Thus I invite you to this tower I do summon, stir and call you. See these rites and guard this circle! Hail and Welcome! WEST: (lights the western candle) Let there be a light radiating in the west. Blessed be this Western Gate and Blessed be the element of Water. Western ones of water's flow help to guard us here below I do summon, stir and call you. See these rites and guard this circle! Hail and Welcome!

NORTH: (lights the Northern candle) Let there be a light reflecting in the North. Blessed be this Northern Gate and Blessed be the element of Earth. Earthen ones of Northern fame bless and guard our powers fane I do summon, stir and call you! See these rites and guard this circle! Hail and Welcome!

ALL QUARTERS CHANT: See these rites and guard this circle! Come to us and heed our call! By the power that made us all: By the power that blesses thee: come to us: and Blessed be!

MORRIGAN: Earth and water, fire and Air. I invoke the Goddess Morrigan there! This night we are between the Worlds to celebrate the year unfurled! Hear us now Great Morrigan! The great Queen of Battle and Sorcery, the Old Woman of Death and the Cauldron of Rebirth, We the children of the earth pray that you be with us, that you look kindly upon our holy rite, and that you come into our grove and give us your blessing. Hail and Welcome!

CERNUNNOS: Earth and Water, Fire and Sky. I invoke the God Cernunnos on high! This night we are Between the Worlds to celebrate the year unfurled! Hear us now, Horned One, Receiver of the dead, Granter of rest, Patron of the feast in the land of the Dead. We the children of the earth pray you to come in, To let your gaze fall upon this sacred ground, To indwell our rite and give us your blessing.

Hail and Welcome!

ALL: Place hands over the heart Take three long deep breaths and say: "We are at the centre of the world."

Move onto one knee and place palms onto the ground and say: "We stand firmly upon the land."

Stand and place hands behind slowly bring them forwards to have open palms facing inwards while saying "the sea surrounds us."

With palms facing inwards towards the circle bring hands above the head to form a triangle while saying "the sky spreads itself above us".

Bring hands back to your heart and say. "We are at the centre of the Three Realms."

CERNUNNOS: takes the stone and raises it above the head towards the sky and then touches it to the ground and says" May Talamh Naomh supports us. "Replace stone on the altar and mix some salt into the bowl of water. Swirl three times clockwise saying" may Farraighe Siorai surround us. Place water back and pick up the feather describe an arc from east to west saying "may Speir Eigriochta watch over us."

MORRIGAN: says "Let us make offerings to the ancestors and land spirits. Meditate upon our debt to them, for without them we would not exist."

ALL CHANT: "Here we stand on sacred land the sky is over our heads All around us the endless sea We honor the mighty dead.

MORRIGAN: gives out the apples while saying "Here is the apple of life and wisdom. Receive it and eat while remembering those who have died before you."

CERNUNNOS:" All ye spirits who walk this night- Hearken! Hearken to my call! I bid you in our circle join! Enter Enter – one and all! Come ye, spirits of the dead ! Be ye spirit of plant, pet or human! 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 ye spirits who walk this night, Hearken! Hearken to our call! We bid you in our circle join! Enter! Enter one and all!"

MORRIGAN: Once apples have been eaten Morrigan speaks "As we have eaten of the fruit of life, so our ancestors live in our fruitful memories of them."

CERNUNNOS: "On the feast of samhain the veils between the worlds are thin. We call to our beloved dead, the blessed ancestors, to join our feast and receive due offering. Come to the gates , honoured ones ; hear our call, we your children who remember. We offer you our worship, our reverence and our love. To all those elder wise ones who guide their people, wise women and men of ancient days, we offer you welcome."

(((Meditation)))

CERNUNNOS: "The gods have blessed us. With joy in our hearts, let us return to the realm of mortals to do both their will and ours. Every time we invoke them, they become stronger and more alert to the needs of the folk, but now comes the time when we must prepare to depart. So let us give thanks to those whom we have invited here tonight. Every beginning has an ending, and every ending has a beginning . In life is death and in death is life. Watch over us loved ones here and departed, who tonight are joined together again for fellowship and celebration. Bless our eternal fires in our hearts. Guide us and protect us, tonight and throughout the year. As the New Year is born, we are all reborn with new hopes and dreams. Guide us in the future as in the past. Give us strength and courage, Knowledge and fulfilment. Assist us as we attempt to achieve our goals. Blessed be! Blessed be!"

ALL : "Hail and Farwell!"

MORRIGAN: "Your cauldron is a well of death and rebirth, Hear us now as the past year slowly dies, only to be reborn again. Today, the last of the harvests is complete. This symbolic harvest is of our thought-seeds, Planted and nurtured throughout this past year. May the good come to pass and the bad be cast aside. With Your divine guidance and protection, We step into the New Year. May we have good Health, Prosperity and Happiness. Blessed be!

ALL: "Hail and Farwell!"

NORTH: "In the name of the Great Bear of the Starry Heavens and the elemental Earth, we thank the powers of the North. By the Northern Lights and the glittering stars at midwinter, by the deep and abiding Earth, I withdraw this Northern Gate and radiate it's light."

ALL: "Hail and Farewell!"

WEST: "In the name of the Salmon of Wisdom and the elemental Water, we thank the powers of the west. By the Moon rising at sunset, by the Evening Star and the Sea, I withdraw this Western Gate and radiate it's light."

ALL: "Hail and Farewell!"

SOUTH: "In the name of the Great Stag and of the Elemental Fire, we thank the powers of the South. By the midsummer Sun at Noon, I withdraw this Southern Gate and radiate it's light."

ALL: "Hail and Farewell!"

EAST: "In the name of the Hawk of dawn and the elemental Air, we thank the powers of the East. By the Rising Star, by the Morning Star, by the Sky at Dawn, I withdraw this Eastern Gate and radiate it's light."

ALL: "Hail and Farewell!"

May this circle be open but unbroken May the peace of the Goddess be ever in our hearts. Merry Meet and Merry Part And Merry Meet again.



Waiting to enter the circle



L to R: West/Water (Jenny), North/Earth (Amethyst), Cernunnos (Tidal Wolf), South/Fire (Rayvensclaw), Morrigan (Janine), East/Air (Maria).



Cernunnos and The Morrigan



Cernunnos

* This ritual is a combination of the author's original ideas and information obtained from various books and/or internet sources.