

# Samhain 2014

By: Wayland Stafford

(Written in the style of Ar nDraiocht Fein Druidry)



(Ancestral Spirits: Realmagic.com)

**Procession:**

*“Gathered Here”*

*Gathered here in the mystery of hour.*

*Gathered here in one strong body.*

*Gathered here in the struggle and the power.*

*Spirit, draw near.*

**Offerings to the Outsiders:**

*We call to those who do not align with our spiritual practices. Those who dwell within the world, as well as the world within. We call to the spirits of fear, despair and self-hate;*

*No longer in this body shall you remain.*

*You have who cloud judgment and create doubt,*

*We turn from you and shut you out.*

*Accept this offering that we give unto you, and from  
this time and place forever stay*

**All:** *Outsiders, accept our offering.*

**Purification:** (smudging or asperging)

**Guided Mediation:** (The Two Powers Meditation)

**Statement of Purpose:**

*We have gathered here, on this Samhain day, to  
honor our Ancestral lineage. We have gathered  
from varying traditions and from separate corners  
of the earth to lift up the memories of our beloved  
dead and sing hymns in the praise and honor of  
their memory.*

**Invocation to the Earth Mother:**

*We call to the Mother of the Luscious Earth,*

*She who in this time of harvest calls for times of rest and reflection. We call to the Mother of the Grain she who we turn to in times of nourishment and continuity. We call to the Mother of the Release, she who guards and keeps us in the ends of our days as we pass through the veil from this world to the next.*

*Accept our offerings oh Mother of Life Eternal,  
Great Goddess of the Earth.*

*All: Earth Mother, accept our offerings.*

**Invocation to the Sky Father:**

*We call to the Great Father of the Sky, you whose radiant light nourishes the fertile earth with which without we would cease to exist. You who guides us throughout time and all of our days. You, Oh Great Father who holds the cosmic tapestry that*

*generation after generation has turned to for record  
and answers.*

*Accept our offerings in honor and wisdom.*

*All: Sky Father accept our offerings.*

**Invocation to the Spirits of Inspiration:**

*We call to the Spirits of Inspiration,*

*You who on guided foot travel the world spreading  
thoughts of creativity and compassion,*

*You who leads man and woman alike to undertake  
most courageous feats that of which has shaped the  
entirety of our existence.*

*Accept our offerings Spirits of Inspiration, as we  
gather here to honor our beloved dead and those  
memories which they instilled to us to carry in our  
hearts.*

*All: Spirits of Inspiration accept our offerings.*

**Invoking the Keeper of the Gates:**

*We call to the Keeper of the Crossroads,*

*You with illuminating guidance watch over all paths  
leading to and from the center of existence.*

*With your glowing lantern, rise high to the sky and  
shine before us as we gather here on the threshold  
of cosmic order.*

*With your might stand with us and do hold fast the  
way between the world.*

*You, Oh Keeper of the Gates and Guardian of the  
Veil*

*Accept our offerings and be welcome in our grove.*

*All: Gatekeeper Accept our Offering!*

## **(Re)Creating the Sacred Center**

*“The Portal Song”*

**(Chorus)**

***By fire and by water, between the Earth and Sky,***

***We stand like the world tree rooted deep crowned high.***

*Come we now to the well, The eye and the mouth of  
earth.*

*Come we now to the well and silver we bring.*

*Come we now to the well, the waters of rebirth.*

*Come we now to the well, together we sing.*

**(Chorus x2)**

*We will kindle a fire, bless all and with harm to  
none.*

*We will kindle a fire and offerings pour.*

*We will Kindle a Fire a light neath the moon and  
sun.*

*We will kindle a fire, our spirits will soar.*

**(Chorus x2)**

*Gather we at the tree, the root and the crown of all*

*Gather we at the tree, below and above.*

*Gather we at the tree, together we make out call*

*Gather we at the tree, in wisdom and love.*

**(Chorus x3, the last with gusto!)**

*Words by: Ian Corrigan. Stonecreed Grove ADF*

## **Opening the Gates**

### **The well:**

*Powers of the Well, whose form is ever changing;  
flow about, beneath, and through us. Let this well*



*be no more a simple well but all the wells and all waters and all seas and fountains of the worlds.*

*Powers of the Well, be in our Grove!*

**The Tree:**

*Powers of the Tree, whose body gives us the air we breathe: Grow beneath, above, and within us. Let this tree be no more a simple tree, but the axis of all worlds.*

*Power of the Tree, be in our Grove.*

**The Fire:**

*Powers of fire, whose essence sustains the soul of all: Shine above, about, and within us. Let this fire be no more a simple fire, but the fires of all the Heavens and the crown of all the worlds.*

*Power of Fire, be in our Grove.*

### **Opening the Well:**

*In the depths flow the waters of wisdom. Sacred  
well flow within us.*

*(offers silver/ crystal to the well)*

### **Opening the Fire:**

*I feel the sacred fire of wisdom, love and power.  
Sacred Fire burn within us.*

*(Offer incense or oil to the fire.)*

### **Opening the Tree:**

*From the depths of the heights spans the tree,  
sacred tree grow within us.*

*(Asperge with water from the well.)*

*Let the sea not rise and all ill turn away. Let the Sky  
not fall and all ill turn away. Let the land hold firm*

*and all ill turn away. The Fire, The Well, and the Sacred Tree flow and flame and grow in me. In Land, Sea, and Sky, below and on high. Thus is the sacred grove claimed and hollowed.*

*In every place where triads meet, there is the center of the worlds. Let this sacred center be the boundary of all worlds, that our voices be carried and our vision be seen.*

*Now let the fire open the gate, let the well open the gate, let the tree hold fast the way between. Open as an eye of seeing, open as a mouth of speaking, open as an oaken door between the sacred center and the otherworld. By the keeper of the gates and my will and words,*

*Let the Gate be Open!*

**All:** *Let the Gates be Open! (x3)*

**Invoking the Kindred.**

**Honoring the Spirits of Nature:**

*We call to our brothers and sisters whom, with us,  
share this land.*

*We call to those of fin and fur, scale and flesh,*

*You, Oh Noble Beings, who tend to our great  
mother and are in tune with the natural cycles of  
life and death,*

*All beings strive for love; all long for security and  
happiness, and here we lay down all of our needs to  
be superior and within this place stand as your  
equals.*

*As we open our arms to you in loving embrace we  
also make offerings to you with respect and honor.*

*Spirits of Nature, Accept our offering!*

*All: Spirits of Nature, Accept our Offering!*

**Honoring the Shining Ones:**

*Shining Ones,*

*As children of both the Earth and the Cosmos,*

*We call out to you.*

*Both those whom we know your names*

*And those we know not your names.*

*Come, those we worship*

*And those we do not.*

*We invite you to our table*

*As honored guests*

*All of the Shining Ones have a place and a purpose  
on the Earth and in the Cosmos.*

*Welcome to our ritual.*

*Accept our offerings made with honor and respect.*

*Shining Ones, Accept our offering.*

*All: Shining Ones, Accept our offering.*

## **Honoring the Ancestors:**

*We call to the blood of our blood, the bones of our bones, and the flesh of our flesh,*

*You who stand before and behind us.*

*We call to the Ancestors of Our Lineage, you brave individuals whom have paved the way of liberation and have left us with the remnants of your ageless legacies.*

*You who have instilled within us the morals and values that we carry in our hearts and in our soul.*

*We call and reach out to the individuals whom have taught us how to love and understand the world.*

*You who in our time of despair and need, with loving hands, lifted us up and with a warm embrace comforted us.*

*We stand here at the center of the worlds, gathered,  
on this Samhain night, to honor and revel in the  
memory of you. To share our love and memory of  
our Kin and feed and nurture the flames of our  
hearth that they may continue to sustain and  
provide for the coming generations.*

*We raise our heads high and stand tall and proud,  
as you taught and guided us to, and make offerings  
in your memory that even in the world beyond you  
can share in our merriment and be filled with our  
love.*

*Mighty Ancestors, accept our offerings!*

*All: Mighty Ancestors, accept our offerings!.*

**Praise Offerings:**

*(At this time you are welcome to step forward and  
say a prayer, either out loud or to yourself, to your*

*Patrons or any other God/dess you feel compelled to. This offering can be in many forms: song, prayer, chant, art, votive, etc... However, please be respectful of others beliefs and show them the same respect that you would want to be shown in turn. I would also like to invite everyone to come forward and light a candle in reflection and honor of a loved one, please feel free to share a memory or story of this beloved one be they of flesh or fur. )*

**Prayer of Sacrifice:**

*Here we stand in the Center of the Worlds, before the Gates. Offerings we have made to the Kindred, mana we have raised through the sacrifice.*

*I present to you the first primordial being sacrificed in the beginning of time to create the cosmos.*



*Through our actions, here on this day, we have established order out of chaos, certainty from uncertainty. And here with this sacrifice we share within that Order and give unto the Gods, that which is their by right.*

*As in days of old people have gathered to celebrate in feast and offered unto the Gods that which is their portion.*

*So here we make our final sacrifice to uphold and establish order. Order which was established here today, in the beginning, and continuously throughout time.*

**Offering Song:**

*“The Offering Song”*

*Let our voices arise on the fire,*

*Let our voices resound in the deep*

*May the Spirits accept what we offer*

*As we honor the old ways we keep.*

Words and music by Sonoran Sunrise Grove, ADF

**The Omen:**

**The Waters of Life:**

*“Pour the Waters”*

*Pour the Waters, raise the cup*

*Drink your share of wisdom deep*

*Strength and love now fill us up*

*As the elder ways we keep*

Words and music by Stone Creed Grove, ADF

The folk call for the blessing, saying:

*As Children of Earth,*

*We call for the blessing of the Ancient Ones.*

***All: Kindred, give us the waters!***

*We join our hearts, that each of us be blessed.*

***All: Kindred, give us the waters!***

*And as we are blessed, let all the Worlds be blessed.*

***All: Kindred, give us the waters!***

*(The Druid pours the Blessing into the cup, saying)*

*We draw water from the Well of Wisdom,*

*We pour the Ale of Inspiration.*

*(The cup is elevated, saying)*

*O Mighty, Noble and Shining Ones,*

*We have given to you,*

*And now we ask you to bless us in turn,*

*As a gift calls for a gift.*

*Hallow these waters, O holy powers.*

*Grant us the blessing we seek.*

*May the Wisdom, Love and Power*

*Of the Gods, Dead and Spirits of Nature,*

*Flow in this Cup of Blessing.*

*Behold: the Waters of Life!*

*(The cup is passed, and all drink. After the cup has  
been passed)*

**Everyone in unison:**

*We take up the chalice of Joy and Power,*

*The cup of Fire and Shadow that stirs the soul.*

*Let us taste the Waters of Wisdom's Well;*

*Let us drink the Ale of Inspiration.*

*We open ourselves to the Blessing of the Powers:*

*Lead us in the Elder Ways;*

*Guide our walk through our life's road,*

*Through our destiny's song,  
Ancient and Wonderful Powers,  
Shining Gods, Mighty Dead, Noble Spirits of  
Nature:  
Come into us here in our Grove  
To share and join in our work.  
May your magic awaken in our blood,  
For we are all your children.  
Flow in us, Power of Magic;  
Shine in our Loins;  
Shine in our Hearts;  
Shine in our Heads.  
Let there be no part of us  
That is not of the Gods!*

**Returning the Waters of Life**

**Giving thanks to the Kindred**

**Thanking the Gatekeeper**

**Closing the Gates**

**Thanks to the Spirits of Inspiration**

**Thanking the Sky Father**

**Thanks to the Earth Mother**

**Closing words (said in unison):**

*Walk with wisdom from this hallowed place. Walk  
not in sorrow, our roots shall ere embrace. May  
strength be your brother, and honor be your friend,  
and luck be your lover until we meet again.*

Words by: Sable