Working With Eileithyia as Gatekeeper

I wrote this as a portion of my solitary Winter Solstice ritual honoring Helios, which I performed this past year (2016).

Calling Eileithyia as the Gatekeeper:

I now call to Eileithyia, She Who Brings Children Out of Darkness and Into Light, That I may open the Ways between.

(Wrap head in a white veil.)

Eileithyia, clever spinner! Eileithyia, cave-born! Eileithyia, you who have helped women in childbirth! Eileithyia, Lady of Crete yet honored in lands far from Crete, honored by many names! Come, and taste of this cake, that I give freely to you. (offer portion of cake)

Eileithyia, you help to bring us all from the darkness of the womb into the light of day. You open the gates between the world of the womb and the world of light. Eileithyia, I pray that you might help me safely open the gates between this darkened world and the shining world of the Kindreds. I pray that you will ease passage between the worlds during this ritual, allowing free and safe movement as my rite requires. Eileithyia, come, and taste of this cake, that I give freely to you. (offer portion of cake)

Eileithyia, light-bringer, hail! Eileithyia, Gatekeeper, hail! (offer portion of cake)

(Open the gates in usual fashion.)

(Main body of the ritual takes place.)

Thanking Eileithyia the Gatekeeper

Venerable Eileithyia, I thank you for showing me the way. I thank you for your help in opening the Gates between the worlds. I thank you for bringing forth the soul from darkness into light. For all your blessings, cave-born Eileithyia, I praise and thank you. May I be blessed in the closing of the Gates, as I have been blessed in the opening of the Gates.

(Close gates in usual fashion. Only after this is complete, remove white cloth from head.)

Works Referenced

"Eileithyia." *Theoi.com*. Theoi Project, 2017. Web. December 2016.

"Eileithyia Cult." *Theoi.com*. Theoi Project, 2017. Web. December 2016.

Serith, Ceisiwr. "Nemos Ognios Basic Ritual." *Ceisiwrserith.com*. 2005. <u>http://ceisiwrserith.com/ritual/practice/adfrituals/basicritual.htm</u> Accessed February 10, 2017.