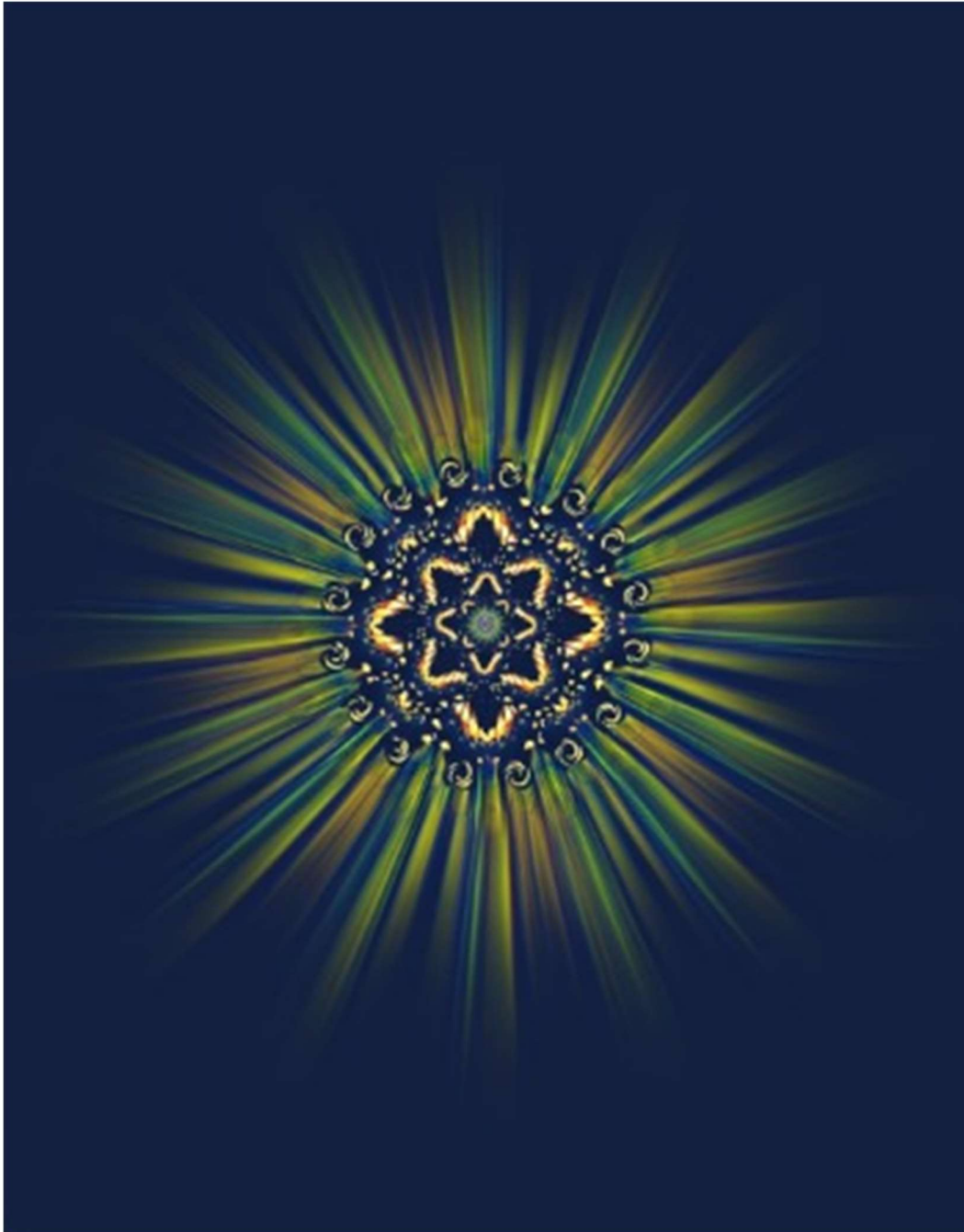


Ancient Sea Island Continuum



*A Winter Solstice Sabbat
December 22, 2013*

RITUAL SPACE PREPARATION

A table in center covered by green cloth with a large pentacle, a wreath, two candles, a crown of anise for air, a bowl of unpolished rose quartz stones for fire, a bowl of spring water, and a block of clay for earth. Chairs are arranged in a circle around the altar (current setup).

PRELUDE MUSIC

How Sweet the Darkness

Music Director (piano solo)

-

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

UUFB welcome, visitors, announcements, information, then...

Welcomer We will start our Sunday service in the customary manner, by lighting our candle, reciting our mission statement, listening to the children's story, and receiving in gratitude the offerings of our Fellowship. Then *Ancient Sea Island Continuum* will include all of us in their celebration of *A Winter Solstice Sabbat*. Now, join with me in reciting aloud our mission statement.

MISSION STATEMENT

Guide lights UU candle on altar.

All Our mission is to create a joyful sanctuary for spiritual and intellectual growth, embracing all souls in a nurturing community from which we go forth as activists for social justice and as stewards of the natural world.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Crone invites youth to the proscenium for storytelling.

Afterwards,

All (sing) We will sing all together as the world turns 'round.
We will sing all together as the day grows long.
We will sing all together growing wise and strong.
In the name of all of our children.
(Children's Song by Sally Rogers)

OFFERING

Welcomer Our Fellowship encourages all of us to grow more generous in spirit and in action. At this special time of the year, creating compassion brings the human being closer to the divine. If you are visiting us for the first time, please let the basket pass by. To the members of our Fellowship, I invite you to exercise generosity of spirit. With your offering that helps build this self-supporting church, we gratefully receive your gifts.

Welcomer and Guide pass the basket to and back from the Fellowship, as music plays....

MUSIC

The Holly and the Ivy

Music Director (recorder solo)

SABBAT INTRODUCTION

Guide

Today, Ancient Sea Island Continuum, the Pagan spiritual affinity group of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort, presents *A Winter Solstice Sabbat*. Contemporary Pagans hold special worship celebrations eight times during the solar calendar: on the solstices, the equinoxes, and midpoints in between. We call these ceremonies *sabbats* and many of us approach these occasions as opportunities to directly interact with the powers of Nature.

We invite you to support and participate in our worship, in whatever manner is most comfortable for you to perceive the energies we invoke: psychological, cultural, spiritual, or magickal. In a pattern common to many faith traditions at this time of the Winter Solstice, we seek to invoke the power of Love and Peace, for our families, our community, and the world.

Through a combination of music, song, and chant, we will consecrate the space and time we worship in, create a magickal container to hold our love, and then spread the good cheer outward from this circle. Then we prepare a sacred space within which we may worship and celebrate using the deepest convictions of our souls, hearts, and minds.

Please stay seated as Ancient Sea Island Continuum presents *A Winter Solstice Sabbat*.

GROUNDING

Deep Peace (Bill Douglas, Celtic Twilight Vol 1)

Guide

At this special time of year, the stillness of our world is hauntingly noticeable. Quite naturally, quiet reflection simply occurs. Let us partake of the magick in the air to ground our bodies, center our thoughts, and work together to build a sacred space. Breathe in, listen silently, yet mindfully. Let your spirit embrace the truth resting in this ancient Celtic blessing.

Music Director starts the recording, then...

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace.

QUARTERS

People, Look East

Quarters walk to center, take their Element from altar. Then each Quarter lifts Element up in turn as Music Director begins playing (StLT #226).

All (sing)

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Birds, look south. Over farm and field
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
Nature for fledging time has chosen.
People, look south and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, look west. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look west and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

Furrows, look north. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look north and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

GOD & GODDESS INVOCATION

Tune - We Three Kings

Priest & Priestess walk to altar, lighting candles.

All (sing) Come Thou, Lord, the Newborn Sun.
 Come Sweet Mother, Holy One.
 Praise we sing Thee.
 Love we bring Thee,
 As ever shall be done.

 Queen of Heaven on your throne,
 Maiden, Mother, Ancient Crone,
 Praise we sing Thee.
 Love we bring Thee,
 For all that you have shown.

 Moon of Silver, Sun of Gold,
 Gentle Lady, Lord so bold!
 Guide us ever,
 Failing never.
 Lead us in ways of old.

 Lord of Darkness, Lord of Light,
 Gentle Brother, King of Might,
 Praise we sing Thee.
 Love we bring Thee,
 On Solstice day and night.

 Moon of Silver, Sun of Gold,
 Gentle Lady, Lord so bold!
 Guide us ever,
 Failing never.
 Lead us in ways of old.

Come thou, Lord, the Newborn Sun.
Come sweet Mother, Holy One.
Praise we sing Thee.
Love we bring Thee,
As ever shall be done.

Priest Here...
 In the heart of sacred space,
 In the center of Love & Peace

Priestess In the deep stillness
 Of the Winter Solstice,

Both Our circle is cast
 Blessed be!

All Blessed be!

MAGICKAL EXCHANGE

Priest & Priestess walk to head of altar. Fire Quarter lifts up bowl of Rose Quartz.

Priestess Rose Quartz is one of the most well-known metaphysical stones. It represents unconditional love. Rose Quartz opens the Heart Chakra to all types of love — love of self, love of family, love of friends, romantic love. Because it is quartz, Rose Quartz has high energy, but with vibrations that are also calming and soothing. This characteristic fosters empathy, reconciliation, and forgiveness of others.

Since Rose Quartz opens the heart to compassion for self and for others, and raises self-esteem, we will use it to create a powerful symbol of Peace and Love from everyone here. In turn, each of you will take two stones. Hold them in your hands, and fill them with your love. We'll create a microcosm of our world by forming a globe of clay. When the sphere comes to you, press one of your stones into the clay as a seed of your Love to fill our world. Keep the other stone as reminder of your hope and generosity throughout the Yuletide season.

As the globe circles around, join with us, chanting to fill the world with our good intentions. When the globe finally returns to the wreath, we'll count down the chant, releasing the magick on the last stanza in a powerful wish for Love and Peace.

Priestess takes clay from Earth Quarter, as Water Quarter sprinkles water upon it, then begins to fashion a sphere.

Priestess Behold the mystery:
 I form with my hands...
 A world from this clay,
 On this Winter Solstice day.

Priest takes bowl of Rose Quartz, Air Quarter waves anise crown over it.

Priest Behold the spirit:
 I open up my heart
 To help fill these crystals,
 With Peace and Love.

Priest takes clay sphere to Quarters, then participants. Priestess holds bowl of Rose Quartz as each person takes two stones, holds the globe, and presses one crystal into the sphere. Globe passes deosil as...

MAGICKAL CHANT

All Free the heart and let it go.
 What we reap is what we sow. *(Repeat both lines)*

Quarters keep the chant building intensity, slowly but steadily. When the globe returns to the altar, Priest and Priestess raise the Rose Quartz studded globe together. Quarters count down the chant by holding up fingers on both hands... 4, 3, 2. At end of last stanza, Quarters drop both hands and shout.

All FREE THE HEART AND LET IT GO!
 WHAT WE REAP IS WHAT WE SOW!

As silence fills the space, Priestess waits as long as possible for the energy effect, then says:

Priestess Behold ...
 The Magick of our Love,
 As above...

Priest & Priestess slowly lower the globe onto wreath.

Priest So below,

Quarters So mote it be!

All So mote it be!

VALEDICTIONS

When ritual is ready to end, Quarters walk to altar & face inward towards their directions. Priest & Priestess stand at head of altar.

Guide With sympathetic magick, we created a world filled with our Love and Peace, and thus, our sacred work is nearly complete. We will now dismantle our circle and return to ordinary space and time.

Priest & Priestess hold hands and say.

Both Goddess and God,
We thank you for your presence.
For your circle,
For light and love,
For night and change,
We ask for your blessing,
As you depart.
Hail & farewell!

All Hail & farewell!

Quarters hold hands and say:

Quarters Open now this sacred space.
Send these energies back to place.
Fare thee well and safe return.
May we ever love and learn.
Hail & farewell!

All Hail & farewell!

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

Guide We will now close the circle we cast. Please stay in your seats until we finish all stanzas of the Postlude, Deck the Halls. Now, please join me in reciting aloud *Extinguishing the Chalice*.

Guide extinguishes the chalice flame...

All The chalice flame is extinguished until once again ignited by the strength of our gathering in community with a mission for justice and our hearts full of love.

Priestess May the Love of the Goddess ...

Priest And the Peace of the God ...

Both Go with you in your hearts.

All The circle is open,
But never broken.
Merry meet, merry part,
And merry meet again!

Quarters, Priest, and Priestess process out, side by side, as all sing...

POSTLUDE

Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly

All (sing)

Deck the halls with boughs of holly.

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

'Tis the season to be jolly,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Don we now our gay apparel,

Fa-la-la, la-la-la, la-la-la.

Troll the ancient Yule-tide carol,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

See the blazing Yule before us,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Strike the harp and join the chorus,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Follow me in merry measure,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

While I tell of Yule-tide treasure,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Fast away the old year passes,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Sing we joyous, all together,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

Heedless of the wind and weather,

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la.

UUFB COVENANT

How we agree to be together

In full acceptance of our mission statement and in the desire to further its realization, we the members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort, South Carolina, do covenant to be in community with each other in the following ways:

We will apply our Unitarian Universalist Principles to congregational life and governance.

We will respect and support those we have chosen to lead and serve us.

We will practice respectful speech and listening among ourselves, including discussion of those not present, and will assume good intentions of one another.

We will take responsibility for our words and actions, while treating ideas and opinions different from our own with respect.

We will bring problems or concerns directly to those who hold responsibility, speaking with kindness and respect.

While we respect individual needs, the health, safety, and well-being of our religious community transcends individual agendas.

When faced with conflict within our congregation, we will seek to work together to address the conflict and remain in relationship.

When covenant is broken, we will seek to reconcile our relationships in direct and respectful ways.

Thus we will endeavor to maintain and continue our covenant as a healthy religious community, joyfully prepared to carry our mission to the wider world.



*The Earth-centered spiritual affinity group
of the
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort
178 Sams Point Road Beaufort, SC 29907
www.ancientsic.org*