



Festival of Litha
The Summer Solstice
June 22nd, 2013

The Honey Full Moon in Sagittarius

1. Purification

We process through the gate to the circle for the purification of water and incense. We chant:

*The time of gathering has begun
Seasons change a the Still of the Sun
The Oak King bows down to the ground
The Holly King arises fully crowned*
– Janice Chalas

We move toward the central altar and chant:

*The Sun beyond the Sun
The Sun within the Earth
Bright Sun, Dark Sun we are one
I am a breath of the Sun
I am a spark of the Sun
I am a tear of the Sun
I am golden I am Gold*

– Ivo Domínguez, Jr.

2. Creation of Sacred Space

Joe casts the circle and opens the Elemental gates.

The chant changes to:

3. Opening the Holly Chalice

Members of the Keepers of the Holly Chalice join to open the Chalice at the Full of the Sun and Full of the Moon. Leanne speaks of the history of the Chalice.

*Join us
Fill us
Sweetness now*

4. Statement of Intent

Stacey offers a statement of the intention of the ritual.

When the energy has reached its peak, we direct it toward a horn of honeyed water on the central altar.

5. Invocation of the Gods

Peggy and Mark call to Artemis and Apollo, ancient patrons of the bees at Delphi.

8. The Honey Harvest

The horn is passed and we each drink from of its bounty. Some is reserved as an offering to the hives. We chant:

*Like a bee my mind is buzzing
Round the blue lotus feet
Of my divine mother
My divine mother*

– Raven Moonshadow

6. Audience with the Melissa

A basket of honeycomb pieces is passed and each person takes one. As we breathe the sweet scent of the hive, Mark leads us on a path-working to meet with the Melissa.

7. The Dance of Abundance

We take up song and drum. The forager bee enters the circle and dances with joy to announce the abundance of the Nectar of Life. Others join the dance as they are moved.

9. Hail and Farewell

Treva and Jim thank Athena and Apollo for their presence. Janice closes the gates and opens the circle.

*Merry Meet, Merry Part
And Merry Meet Again!*