

House Blessing Manuel-Scott Home ~ December 2014

Chalice Lighting

Read Hymn #1 *May Nothing Evil Cross this Door*
Louis Untermeyer

*May nothing evil cross this door,
and may ill fortune never pry about these windows;
may the roar and rain go by.*

*By faith made strong the rafters will
withstand the battering of the storm.
This hearth, through all the world grow chill,
will keep you warm.*

*Peace shall walk softly through these rooms,
touching our lips with holy wine, till every casual corner
blooms into a shrine.*

*With laughter drown the raucous shout,
and, though these sheltering walls are thin,
may they be strong to keep hate out and hold love in.*

Blessing the Entryways with Libations

- Invocation of Ritual * Rev. Anya

Libation Blessed - Passed around the circle of people, each person shares one thing they hope will come into their home – The ritual of libation is ancient – it is mentioned in the ancient Egyptian “Book of Ani” and is believed to be much more ancient than that, originating in the upper Nile Valley, near Nubia. From the book of Ani we hear,
“Pour libation for your father and mother who rest in the valley of the dead. God will witness your action and accept it. Do not forget to do this even when you are away from home.

For as you do for your parents, your children will do for you also.”

*Wine – balance; liquor – firm protection; water – purify
Pour water and wine all around, liquor also at the front door.
We pour libation tonight to give balance and to show our honor due to the ancestors, and to entice them with our offering. We will pour it at the front door, the back door, and all corners of the home outside.*

Prayer - Rev. Anya

Smudging

Invocation of Ritual - Rev. Scott

First we clear the space with sound, then:

Now we are ready for the smudging.

Smudging is common in many cultures by many names.

The burning of incense in catholic and eastern orthodox churches is the form of smudging most westerners are accustomed. Today's smudging ritual is inspired by the Lakota people's of North America

This ritual honors the Great Spirit, that force of creativity and power that some call God, as we ask for the blessings of the ancestors by honoring the 7 directions.

To the east, land of new beginnings, we open our hearts to your creative energy.

To the south, land of power and strength, we prepare our bodies to remain strong and to fortify the strength of Wendy, Kevin, Miles and Langston in their new home.

To the west, the land of endings, we prepare ourselves to recognize the paths we traveled to arrive at this place, on this day, to learn from that past.

To the north, land of wisdom, we prepare our minds to open to new insight and wisdom, helping the occupants know one another more deeply and compassionately.

[Face towards the center of the room]

Now upwards to the sky, the region of the heavens, the beauty of the clouds and the stars, we appeal for good fortune and inspiration.

Now down, To the earth, the region of our origin, mother of all, sustainer of all, ground us in love and patience.

And finally to the interior, the region within each of us, the temple of our souls, where our desires and thoughts become formed ~ may all who love and enter this home assume one another's best intentions, and may they give room for the nurturing and development of one another's soul.

Having so honored the 7 directions, we now honor this sage and fill it with our sacred intention for good health and good fortune, by saying 3 times – pass it around

“Great spirit, bless this house and all who enter” x3

Smudging ~ Rev. Scott

I shall now go to each closet, nook and cranny of this home and spread your blessing by waving the sacred smoke of the sage. As I do this, I invite you to imagine a life of joy, sweetness and power – to close your eyes as we smudge in each room, and imagine a light all golden – clean, free of distraction and pollution.

When done ...

Thank the directions – read in reverse –

[Face towards the center of the room]

The interior, the creative region within, temple of our souls, where desires and thoughts become formed – Thank you
Down, To the earth, the region of our origin,
mother of all, sustainer of all, Thanks for grounding us in love and forbearance.

Upwards to the sky, the region of the heavens,
the beauty of clouds and stars,
Thanks for bringing good fortune and inspiration.

To the north, land of wisdom, we prepare our minds to open to new insight and wisdom, thanks for bringing us depth and compassionately.

To the west, the land of endings, we prepare ourselves to recognize the paths we traveled to arrive at this place, on this day, thanks for teaching us about our past.

To the south, land of power and strength, thanks for granting us strength, fortifying Langston, Miles, Kevin and Wendy.

To the east, land of new beginnings, thanks for your creative energy and the spark of hopeful light in the distance.

“Great Spirit of the ages, inspire us and nurture us, and protect all who enter this home. Aho” and Amen

Song – *John Coltrane, from A Love Supreme*

Benediction from *Illuminata* by Marryanne Williamson

Dear God,

May this house be a sacred dwelling for those who live here.

May those who visit feel the peace we have received from you. May darkness not enter.

May the light of God shield this house from harm.

May the angels bring their peace here and use our home as a haven of light. May all grow strong in this place of healing, our sanctuary from the loudness of the world.

May it so be used by You forever.

Music, Food and celebration!