

Tonight's myth and ritual centers on Yemaya, Yoruban Orisha who was brought to the New World with the African diaspora and is now worshiped in many cultures. Goddess of the living Oceans, She is considered the Mother of All, the source of all the Earth's waters. Her worshipers light candles and launch boats filled with offerings and wishes into the ocean. She serves as protector and is known for fulfilling the wishes of her children. Tonight we bring our hopes and prayers to launch our own boat of wishes to Yemaya, the great Yoruba ocean Mother. On the day of equal light and dark, we give thanks for the bounty of the Earth's waters, the treasures of ocean, river and stream.



Celebrating the Seasons:
Autumn Equinox
September 19, 2009

Special Thanks: Phoef Sutton & Dawn Bodnar Sutton for *oh so much*, Ana Diaz-Ruiz for your continued generosity and our Temple of the Goddess sound system, Anne Gauldin & Laura Cummings of Miller Sherwood Printing for Program Printing, Debra Mason of Debra Mason Designs for TOG logo, Fritz Heede & John Banks of Artek Images for TOG website opening movie, Mel Clark, Roger Nolan & Kathy Doughtie, Jill D'Agnenica, The Flintridge Foundation, Ana and the Neighborhood Church, Scott Howey for Sound Mixer, Special Thanks to Van Webster-Sound Specialist.

2009 Rituals

Autumn Equinox September 19
All Hallows Eve October 24

***Remember your tax-deductible donations
keep the temple doors open
and our work growing and thriving.***

**For information about Temple of the Goddess go to:
www.TempleoftheGoddess.org**



Yemaya

by Sandra Stanton

Summer Solstice Ritual

Facilitators

Enter the Temple in Sacred Space

Pre-Ritual Activity - Prepare Wishes to Launch Your Boat
Go To Yemaya Altar - You May Leave Offering for Yemaya
Music: Draevyn, Altar Priestess: Caitlin

Welcoming/Announcements – Morfreyja

Opening - *Yemaya* by: Deva Premal, Arrangement: Ananda
Sung by Goddess Choir with Temple Musical Ensemble
Chant: Yemaya Assessu, Assessu Yemaya,
Yemaya Olodo, Olodo Yemaya
Daughter of the Sea: Kathryn Payne
Son of the Sea: Jackson Bradshaw
Yemaya Offering: Kamala

Grounding/Prayer - Xia

Like The Water by: Lauryn Hill
Sung by Ananda, Guitar: Patrick

Guiding Principles of Temple of the Goddess

Read by Temple Young People
Lighting Altar Candles – Xia

Invocation – Haize

Casting the Circle

Blessings by Donna Hebert, Arrangement: Sandi Peaslee
Sung by Goddess Choir

East	Minni Jo
South	Inanna
West	Ember
North	RA
Center	Pythia

I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.

Spoken Word Goddess Liturgy
by Xia & Pythia
Call and Response (Text- Page 5)

Celebrant: Briana
People: **I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.**

Ananda	Anwyn
Briana Murray	Caitlin
Candy Jo Dahlstrom	Christine Papalexis
Ember Knight	Inanna
Jackson Bradshaw	Jackson Bradshaw
Jeaninne Payne	Kamala
Kathryn Payne	Lianna Nakashima
Minni Jo Mazzola	Mnajdra
Morfreyja	Pat Lentz
Pythia	RA
Spencer Doughtie	Witch Haizel

Xia

Temple of the Goddess Choir

Anwyn	Caitlin
Christine Papalexis	Jeaninne Payne
Julie Raftery	Kathryn Payne
Lianna Nakashima	Mnajdra
Morfreyja	Silvana

Ananda

Ritual Art Director: Ruth Ann Anderson

Choir Director: Ananda, **Altar Artists:** RA & Caitlin

Music Directors: Ananda & David Jacks

Choreography & Movement Director: Inanna

Associate Choir Director: Anwyn

Temple Musical Ensemble: Ananda, Patrick Cleary,
David Jacks, Draevyn

Sets, Costumes, And Make-up, Masks (SCAMM) : Anwyn,

Candy Jo, Pat Lentz, Inanna, Cindy Solano-Bowens, RA,

Lighting: Briana Murray, Spencer Doughtie

Sound Artists: David Jacks & Van Webster

Goddess Throne Created by: Fenton & Nancy Ann Jones

Sacred Offerings Designed by: Morfreyja. **Origami Boats made by:**

Mnajdra, Lianna, Pythia, RA, Xia, Anwyn, Draevyn, Sapphyre, Morfreyja

Yemaya's Hanging Gift of Bounty made by Morfreyja

Media Artists: Les Nakashima, Roger Nolan

Savory Snacks Arranged by: Pat Lentz

Temple Greenmen: Mancub, Greenman, James Bradshaw

**Temple of the Goddess Liturgy
Call and Responses**

Opening the Circle

Celebrant: Ananda

People: "**Blessed Be You**"

Spirits of Earth, the North
We honor your gifts
Blessed be You
Blessed Be You

Spirits of Water, the West
We honor your gifts
Blessed be You
Blessed Be You

Spirits of Fire, the South
We honor your gifts
Blessed be You
Blessed Be You

Spirits of Air, the East
We honor your gifts
Blessed Be You
Blessed Be You



Words by Ananda

Music: EPITAPH OF SEIKILOS

(Greek Skolion from a Greek grave stele from the first century CE)

Offering Thanks

Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response

Celebrant: Ananda

People: "**We Remember You**"

We offer our thanks
Our hopes and our dreams
To heal ourselves
To heal the Earth
We Remember You
We Remember You

In gratefulness
In thankfulness
To heal ourselves
To heal the Earth
We Remember You
We Remember You

Words by Ananda
Music: Classical Liturgy

Dance As Liberation - Spoken Word Piece by Victoria Day
Performed by Kamala, Ananda, Inanna, Anwyn, Minni Jo,
Candy Jo. Cajon: Ananda, Congo: David Jacks

The Call by Wendy Rule

Sung by Anwyn, with Goddess Choir and Musical Ensemble
Dancer: Candy Jo Dahlstrom

We Are the Guardians: Mythic Dance of Yemaya

Written by: Xia, Directed by: Pat Lentz

Guardians: Kathryn, Ember, Anwyn, Spencer, Morfreyja,
Yemaya: Haize, Narrator: Christine Papalexis

Yemaya by: Deva Premal, Arrangement: Ananda

Sung by Goddess Choir with Temple Musical Ensemble

She Danced Alone Upon the Waves by Wendy Rule

Sung by Morfreyja, Harmonium: Ananda

Ritual Enactment Through Drum & Dance

As the myth comes to an end you will be invited to join us in dance, in movement, or sit in contemplation. Visit the altars, in any order you wish. Visit Yemaya's altar of bounty and give thanks. Launch your own boat of wishes and dreams in her gentle cove. Visit Yemaya in her watery grotto and receive a gift from Her to hang on your own altar. Dance your freedom and liberation. Dance the bounty and balance of your life. Come dance, dance . . . dance.

Communion - *She Carries Me*

Words & Music by Jennifer Berezan

Sung by Temple of the Goddess Choir

Temple Musical Ensemble

Lianna Nakashima – Communion Cookies

"We partake of Her body

and give thanks, in remembrance

of Her never-ending Circle of Life."

Opening the Circle

Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response

Celebrant: Ananda

People: "**Blessed Be You**"

Offering Thanks

Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response

Celebrant: Ananda

People: "**We Remember You**"

Guiding Principles Temple of the Goddess

- ◆ We believe that every person is the living embodiment of the Divine and a manifestation of Divine Immanence.
- ◆ We respect that every person is their own spiritual authority and no one can define the Sacred and Divine for any one else.
- ◆ We recognize that there are many paths to the Divine, symbolized by the many "goddesses" and "gods" of all cultures and all lands.
- ◆ We support an ideology and spirituality of partnership of relations based on equality, reciprocity, and caring as opposed to domination and control.
- ◆ Though we recognize the Divine in many forms, the focus of that which we call the Divine is manifested in the feminine as "Goddess".
- ◆ We respect and love Mother Earth, Gaia, as a sacred entity who is part of and connected to a vast living cosmos. We believe She is immanent in all of nature, life, and the cycles of life. We honor the interdependence of the web of all existence of which we are each a strand.
- ◆ We believe the loss of the feminine consciousness and ideologies have caused near irreparable damage to humanity and the planet; and we believe that emergence of the feminine consciousness, in balance with the masculine, is the greatest hope for humanity and the planet.
- ◆ The feminine consciousness is the ability to create, nurture and enhance life, and therefore respecting the feminine nature in all beings and in all aspects of life has the power to greatly enhance healing and our quality of life on this planet, and conversely, disrespecting the feminine has and can cause damage to all of life because of its interconnectedness.
- ◆ We accept the abundant goodness of creation which purports that all beings are meant to live in joy, love, and harmony.
- ◆ We believe in a morality and ethics in which the primary imperative is to harm none.

Together, We Are One. Spoken Word Goddess Liturgy by Xia & Pythia

Celebrant: Briana Murray

People: **I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.**

I am the breath of life,
The dawn of new beginnings.
You are the power of word and song,
Inspiration and spirit in flight.
I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.

I am the spark of life,
The flame of creative desire.
You are passion and regeneration,
Fueling the fire of our hearts.
I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.

I am the blood of life,
The ebb and flow of emotions.
You are the tides of change,
Courage in the face of all fear.
I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.

I am the body of life,
Form and substance of Earth.
You are mystery and manifestation,
Ancient roots of wisdom and truth.
I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.

We are the Oneness of Spirit.
United by air and breath.

We are the Oneness of Spirit.
United by passions aflame.

We are the Oneness of Spirit.
United by heart and blood.

We are the Oneness of Spirit.
United by Life and Love.
I Am. You Are. Together, We Are One.