

In song, dance and spoken word, we explore the power of transformation when we surrender to the inevitability of change. We follow Persephone as she ascends from the Underworld where she has spent Winter. In the modern retelling of this ageless story Persephone is met by Baubo who guides her through the change required of her when she returns at spring and the Earth is once again fertile with fruit and grains. Persephone makes this great change each year so that humanity thrives. But does she really like it? Do any of us like the changes that are given us to make?



We acknowledge that change is inevitable and not always of our own choosing. We celebrate Persephone and the Earth's constant renewal while exploring how to accept, embrace, and integrate the changes we must make into our lives.

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2012 Rituals	
Spring Equinox	April 7
Summer Solstice	June 16 (Park)
Autumn Equinox	September 22
Hallows Eve	October 20

**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**



Celebrating the Seasons: Spring Equinox April 7, 2012



Persephone

*"The seasons and all their changes are in me."
-Henry David Thoreau*

Spring Equinox Ritual

Facilitators

Enter the Temple in Sacred Space

Pre-Ritual Activity: Write a personal message: What do you want to transform in your life in 2012? *Go To Spring Altar:* Place your message on the Tree of Transformation.
Altar Priestess: Caitlin

Welcoming/Grounding Prayer – Xia

Opening - *Cauldron of Changes* by Lindie Lyla

Sung by Goddess Choir with Temple Musical Ensemble
Cauldron Dancer: Minni Jo

Casting the Circle

The Circle is Cast by Robert Gass
Based on Traditional Wiccan Invocation

Sung by Ananda and Temple Choir
Temple Musical Ensemble

East	RA
South	Adele
West	Kamala
North	Nancy Ann
Center	Pythia

Guiding Principles of Temple of the Goddess

Kamala, Everyone (Text - Page 4)
Lighting Altar Candles – Adele

Mother of All words by Alexander Pope, music by Michael G. Young

Sung by Temple Choir
Temple Musical Ensemble

I am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

Spoken Word Goddess Liturgy
Call and Response (Text- Page 5)

Celebrant: Kitty
People: **I am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.**

The Revolution Must Have Dancing by Nina Simons, excerpt

Moonrise: The Power of Women Leading from the Heart

Dancer: Minni Jo
Spoken word: Ananda

Adele Shakal
Briana Murray
Candy Jo Dahlstrom
Joanne Elliott
Kitty McCormick
Nancy Ann Jones
RA

Ananda
Caitlin
Christine Papalexis
Kamala
Minni Jo Mazzola
Pythia
Xia

Temple of the Goddess Choir

Ananda
Caitlin
Christine Papalexis
Julie Raftery
Kitty McCormick
Lianna Nakashima

Briana Murray
Carolyn Potter
Jennifer Gaillard
Kristin Dwan
Laura Jennings
Mnajdra

Temple Musical Ensemble

Patrick Cleary, Ananda

Temple Production Staff

Ritual Producers: Pythia, RA, Xia

Media Director: Caitlin

Marketing Director: Charles "Beautyseer" Elliott

Social Network Director: Joanne Elliott

Ritual Art Director: Ruth Ann Anderson

Programs: Miller Sherwood Printing, Mnajdra, Xia

Altar Artists: Caitlin & RA

Music & Choir Director: Ananda

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

Adele, Candy Jo, RA, Pythia, Nancy Ann Jones, Fenton Jones

Goddess Throne Created by: Nancy Ann Jones, Fenton Jones

Lighting: Briana Murray, Katherine Doughtie Nolan

Sound & Recording Artist: Patrick & Ananda

Sacred Offering Giveaways by:

Candy Jo Dahl, Pythia, Xia, Ernie Silva

Media Artists: Les Nakashima, Roger Nolan, Charles Elliott

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy
Call and Responses

Opening the Circle

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response
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

Temple of the 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

Persephone: Path of Change

Written & Directed by: Xia; Narrator: Christine Papalexis;
Changing Woman: Kamala; Baubo: Briana; Persephone:
Candy Jo; Soundscape: Ananda, Patrick

All Things Change by: Kan'Nal; Sung by: Ananda, Patrick

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 Persephone in her Garden of Transformation where she gives us a gift, a personal Chrysalis to remind us of the power of eternal transformation. Celebrate the awakened Earth as we celebrate the divine dance of change and renewal.

Communion - Xia

Adele Shakal – Communion Cookies

"We partake of Her body and give thanks,
in remembrance of Her never-ending Circle of Life."

Ostara by Lisa Thiel

Sung by Temple Choir
Temple Musical Ensemble

Grounding - Blessing by Donna Hebert

Arranged by Sandi Peaslee
Sung by Temple of the Goddess Choir
Temple Musical Ensemble

Prosperity Blessing - Xia, Everyone

Today, I celebrate my harvest.
I nurture the new seeds I wish to grow.
Mother Earth gives of Herself as we give to Her.
I pray for happiness, wholeness, and abundance
for myself and all living beings.
Goddess provides everything.
We feast at a bountiful table,
and we offer this gift in thanks. Blessed Be.

Benediction - Xia

May we be one with this Moment of Change.

Opening the Circle

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response
Celebrant: Ananda
People: **"Blessed Be You"**

Offering Thanks

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response
Celebrant: Ananda
People: **"We Remember You"**

Merry Meet and Merry Part - Everyone

Traditional

Guiding Principles Temple of the Goddess

- ◆ We believe that every person is the living embodiment of the Divine.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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. She is immanent in all of nature, life, and the cycles of life.
- ◆ We believe the 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.
- ◆ 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.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing Spoken Word Goddess Liturgy by Xia Call and Response

Celebrant: Priestess or Priest

People: **I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.**

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
Nature and the Earth are always turning.
I embrace their differences,
for the seasons abide in me.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
I surrender to change, let go of the old.
I shed, release and continue to grow.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
A seed planted at spring
In the nurturing dark of the soil
Reaching for the light, I become a new form.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
In the stark heat of summer,
Toiling with growth, reaching for the sun.
I am maturing, ripening, joyously becoming.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
Come Autumn I thrill to the colors of change
Adapting, slowing with the first breath of fall
I look within and honor all that I am.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
In the embracing dark of Winter I pause. I wait
Trusting in the stillness of a new creative space.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.

I am changing, evolving, ever-renewing.
Holding to courage and the alchemy of change
Awaiting rebirth in the passage of time
The Wheel of Life brings me back
To all that I am.

I Am Changing, Evolving, Ever-Renewing.