The Feast of Cernunnos

March 23 is the Feast of Cernunnos in the Henge of the Cobbled Path. It’s the first day on the calendar that is always after the Spring Equinox.

This is some of the preparatory material from the 2017 Denton CUUPS Beltane circle. If you need any inspirational material, there should be something here that will work for you. I’m including the devotional ritual as a sample – it is not mandatory. Do what seems right for you.

**Devotional Ritual**

“Cernunnos, Lord of the Animals and Lord of the Hunt, God of the Forest and of Green Growing Things, I ask you to join me here and bless me with your presence. Great Hunter and Hunted, be welcome here. Teach me what I must learn, so I can join you in the Great Work of this time and place.

Cernunnos, Horned God, God of Nature and Father to my tribe, hear me as I call to you. I thank you for the animals: those that nourish my body, those that bring signs and omens, those that inspire me with their beauty and power, and those that accompany me through life. Hunter and Hunted, let me run with you through the forest; teach me again to be wild and free.

Accept this offering, I ask, given in hospitality, and in love.”

The choice of offerings is up to you - whatever is meaningful to you and seems appropriate for the occasion. Clean water is always an acceptable offering.

After you complete the invocation and offering, stand or sit in meditation for a short while - again, however long seems appropriate to you. Listen. Listen with your physical ears - what do you hear in the natural world? Listen with your other ears - what do you hear coming from the world of spirit?

When you're done, give thanks in your own way and go back inside.

**Inspirational Readings**

Who is Cernunnos? What do we know about him from history?

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/johnbeckett/2014/06/cernunnos.html>

A recap of our Cernunnos ritual in 2013.

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/johnbeckett/2013/08/the-cernunnos-ritual.html>

A music video - "Hymn to Herne" by S.J. Tucker.

Herne is not Cernunnos. Herne is a possibly-historical figure from medieval England, while Cernunnos is among the oldest of Gods. But Herne and Cernunnos are sometimes conflated into the Wiccan Horned God.

This is a cute sexy Beltane song. I include it here in part because that's part of the heritage of both our High Day and our Guest of Honor, and in part because it's fun. But I'm also including it because of the story S.J. tells in her introduction. The video quality isn't particularly good (especially in the older version) but watch her facial expression and hear her struggle to not get choked up when she says "and he showed up."

<https://youtu.be/o_lCkSh2W3E?t=2m22s>

<https://youtu.be/MsrnYUypluU?t=2m27s>

Sometimes A Wild God

<https://coyopa.wordpress.com/2012/07/19/sometimes-a-wild-god-2/>

My God by Juniper

<http://thehenge.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/My-God.doc>