The Charge of the Goddess

NOW LISTEN TO THE WORDS OF THE GREAT MOTHER, who was of old also
called among men Artemis, Astarte, Athene, Dione, Melusine, Aphrodite,
Cerridwen, Danu, Arianrhod, Isis, Bride, and by many other names. At
her altars, the youth of Lacedaemon in Sparta made due sacrifice.

Whenever ye have need of any thing,
once in the month,
and better it be when the moon is full,
then shall ye assemble in some secret place, and adore the spirit of me,
who am Queen of all witches.

There shall ye assemble, ye who are fain to learn all sorcery, yet have not won it's deepest secrets;
to these will I teach things that are as yet unknown.

And ye shall be free from slavery;
and ye shall dance, sing, feast, make music love, all in my praise.
For mine is the ecstasy of the spirit,
and mine also is the joy of the green earth;
for my law is love unto all beings.

Keep pure your highest ideal;
strive ever towards it, let naught stop you or turn you aside;
for mine is the secret door which opens upon the land of youth,
and mine is the cup of the wine of life,
and the cauldron of Cerridwen, which is the Holy Grail of immortality.

I am the gracious Goddess,
who gives the gift of joy unto the heart of man.
Upon earth, I give the knowledge of the spirit eternal;
and beyond death, I give peace, and freedom,
and reunion with those who have gone before.

Nor do I demand sacrifice;
for behold, I am the Mother of all living,
and my love is poured out upon the earth.

Hear ye the words of the Star Goddess;
she in the dust of whose feet are the hosts of heaven,
whose body encircles the universe.

I who am the beauty
of the green earth and the
white moon upon
the mysteries of the waters,
I call upon your soul to arise
and come unto me.
For I am the soul of nature
that gives life to the universe.
From me all things proceed,
and unto me
they must return.
Let my worship be in the
heart that rejoices,
for behold,
all acts of love and pleasure
are my rituals.
Let there be beauty and strength,
power and compassion,
honor and humility,
mirth and reverence within you.
And you who seek to know me,
know that the seeking and yearning
will avail you not,
unless you know the Mystery:
for if that which you seek,
you find not within yourself,
you will never find it without.
For behold,
I have been with you from the beginning,
and I am that which is attained
at the end of desire.

BLESSED BE!