



# Autumn Welcoming

(adapted from book by Edward Hays, *Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim: A Personal Manual for Prayer & Ritual*)

Welcome, autumn, arms full of summer's blessings,  
carrying the seeds of life for next year's planting.  
Come, enter my home with your golden wisdom; be my  
guest and share my table.

Welcome, Old Wise One,  
may I be your student in the school of gratitude.  
Guide me in reflecting upon the summer now gone,  
that I might give thanks for all the many gifts that have  
enriched me in that season of growth.

I greet you, darkness and cold air.  
May I not fear you but learn to live in harmony with you.  
Night within me, I welcome you as well.  
May your gift which reside in me  
live in harmony in my heart & my spirit.

Like the autumn trees, may I learn how to release.  
May I hold on to things lightly, and do less holding on  
just like the leaves that fall and bless the earth to show  
that they have made peace with letting go.

Amen.