



:: The 12 Tenets of Circle Work ::

:: *Holding Womanspace :: We Hold Sacred Space for Women* ::

"The Circle is everyday ceremony: the invention of our most ancient Godmothers, who upon witnessing the myriad ways nature exalted this humble shape, claimed it as the spiritual center of their communities. Held by the simple rituals of opening & completion, honoring & appreciation, the Circle acts as a vehicle for both storytelling & transcending our stories. In Circle, we are conversing with the divine."

~ Baraka Elihu.

- :: We hold sacred space for Witnessing ::** As sacred witnesses in Circle, we see that every experience has value & there is wisdom in every experience.
- :: We hold sacred space for Safety ::** As protectors of Circle, we promise full confidentiality & do not discuss or allow discussion of what transpires outside our ceremony. We protect each woman's right to anonymity & privacy.
- :: We hold sacred space for Compassion ::** As women devoted to a living practice of compassion, we actively open our hearts to every woman present, including ourselves.
- :: We hold sacred space for Silence ::** As patient students of the healing arts, we consciously allow space for silence to enter. We understand that so much of the magic of Circle happens within these pristine moments of silence.
- :: We hold sacred space for Mystery ::** We honor our ancestors, as their impulse still lives in us. We give thanks for our guides & spiritual teachers. We celebrate the unknowable expansiveness of spirit. We honor all supportive elementals. In Circle, we seek the inner light & listen to the song of the unseen.
- :: We hold sacred space for Truth-telling ::** As women sincere in our search for personal truth, we speak from the "I" place, from direct experience, participating in Circle from the inside out. We refrain from speaking about "you" & actively quiet the human habits of reacting, recapitulating & rescuing.
- :: We hold sacred space for Gratitude ::** For what we know, we say "thank you". For what we do not yet know, we say "thank you". For all that is offered in Circle, we say "thank you". For ourselves, each in our perfect specificity, we say "thank you".
- :: We hold sacred space for Matriarchy ::** As caretakers of the Feminine, we practice mutuality & inter-connectedness. We are the teachers & we are the taught.
- :: We hold sacred space for Healing ::** We trust that each woman in our Circle tends towards healing & that healing may be miraculous & extensive. We trust that our personal healing, heals our community.
- :: We hold sacred space for Simplicity ::** As Circle shows us time & again, true abundance flows from the simplest gifts of life. We value laughter & politeness, groundedness & generosity. We appreciate pleasure & encourage simple shifts that enhance the quality of our lives.
- :: We hold sacred space for Diversity ::** As women wise in the ways of nature & spirit, we celebrate all the diverse ways of existence. We acknowledge all stories as the loving expressions of our shared humanity. We honor all religions, all paths, all loving practices, all peoples. We honor ourselves, with a welcoming heart.
- :: We hold sacred space for Commonality ::** As Wise Women, we adorn ourselves in Common-ness. Valuing our connection as much as our individuality, we welcome One-ness. We always have more in common than what divides us. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.