

Whispering Lake Grove ADF



Beltaine
April 27, 2008
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Grollwynn)

Closing your eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths.

Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth.

In through your nose and out through your mouth.

As you breathe, lay aside the worries, troubles and woes of the mundane world. *(pause 4 count)*

We now stand between Earth and Sky

Feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters

Cold, dark and chaotic; filled with the potential of all life.

Allow the primal waters to enter your being.

Feel the coolness of the waters as they pool within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. *(pause 8 count)*

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens

Know that above us burns the primal fires

Warm, light and ordered; filled with the spark of all life.

Allow the primal fire to enter your being.

Feel the warmth of the fires as they illuminate your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. *(pause 8 count)*

Now join your hands, your hearts and your minds as one people.

(All participants join hands)

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky as they surge through you, lending strength and energy to your being. *(pause 8 count)*

As we open our eyes, know that we assemble as one folk to worship with a common purpose.

All:

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings, honor and worship to the Holy Ones.

Honoring Our Grove Patron (Raven)

Rider of the Maned Waves...

Protect us from the storms.

Guardian of the Threshold...

Guide us from all harm.

Magician of the Shoreline...

Bless us with your might.

Mist Weaver,

May you walk with us this night!

A member of Whispering Lake Grove will prepare a special offering for the Grove Patron and give the offering at this time.

An offering is made to Manannan.

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION (All in song)

In Song (Carrion)

The Waters flow around us

The Fires burn within us

Standing tall we gather at the center of the world.

Upon the Earth our mother

We worship here together

All as one we gather at the center of the world.

(Words and Music by Emerald)

Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.

OPENING PRAYERS

(Jim)

Musical Signal- *a drum beats 3 X 3 times.*

(Grollwynn) (Isaura)

Great Earth Mother and Sky Father,

Through your sacred union springs forth all life.

Mother and Father of all that was, of all that is and all that will be.

We come before you in love and respect and we ask that you uphold and bless our gathering!

(Grollwynn)(Isaura) *An offering of bread and clarified butter is made to the Earth Mother and Sky Father.*

Earth Mother and Sky Father, accept our offering!

All: Earth Mother and Sky Father, be welcome among us!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Bardic Inspiration (Carrion)

Goddess of inspiration and poetry,

Great Mother of song and music,

May our words echo in the sacred well.

May our hearts and minds burn with your eternal flame.

May our songs resonate upon the wind.

May you grant us the gift of inspiration and insight.

(Chris G.) *An offering of cream & honey is placed in the offering bowl for Brighid.*

Lady Brighid, accept our offering!

All: Brighid, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Purpose of the Ritual (Raven)

Children of Earth and Sky,

Today, we gather in this sacred place to return to a sacred time as we prepare to keep the Feast of Beltaine. The fires of purification will be kindled of nine sacred woods that we may be renewed within their warmth and light. On this day we shall call deep into the Hollow Hills of the Mighty Sidhe to welcome them among us. Join with me now as we keep the sacred bargain with our allies among the Spirits of Nature who share this world with us. Through the alliances we make and reaffirm this day, may we receive their blessings, wisdom & guidance in return.

May all who gather be welcome among us!

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

Outdwellers *(at the Southern fire the Sacrificer lays a token for the Outdwellers)* (Carrion)

Beings of chaos and discord!

Hoarders, whose minds know not rest and whose spirits know not peace.

To all those whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our songs and praise.

Know that this time and place we claim as ours!

You may have held it in the past, you may hold it in the future, but for now,

Let it be known that it is OURS!

We have given to you all that we intend to give.

May order reign and chaos trouble not our gathering!

Purification of Participants & Space

The aspersion bowl is filled by Morrighan from the Well and the censor is kindled from the Fire by Chris G. Ritual participants are cleansed with water from the well and purified with smoke from the censor. After the participants are cleansed and purified the Nemeton is cleansed and purified as the following power building chant is led by Raven.

With the powers to create and destroy.

And the strength to cleanse and purify.

When all participants have been purified Raven will step forward saying:

(Raven)

Through the union of fire and water,

Our Nemeton is made whole and holy!

Once more we have met the threat of chaos with order and laid claim to this place. We have made sacred this space that we may worship and honor the Kindred as one people.

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

(Isaura) Let us now raise our voice as one people.

In Song

Deep Peace (Author Unknown)

Deep peace of the flowing air to you

Deep peace of the sacred flame

Deep peace of the running wave to you

Deep peace of the quiet earth

May peace, may peace, may peace fill your soul

Let peace, let peace, let peace make you whole.

Repeat chant 3 times

Establishing Sacred Time (Carrion)

In the beginning and so too in the end; there was but the fires of the Sky and the waters of the Earth. And between them lay a fertile land.

In the South the old Fir Bolg King, dreamed of birds, the sky grew dark as the great flock approached the shore.

From the North through smoke and mist came beings of great might and magic, the vast army of the Tuatha to overtake the land.

Bringing with them four treasures that would assure their victory.

Reaching the shore, the Tuatha burnt their ships and a great battle for the land began. Great numbers of the Fir Bolg fell as the armies of the Tuatha swept across the land. In defeat the Fir Bolg retreated to the lands of the Fomorians and the Tuatha De Danann lay claim to Ireland.

All in song (Grollwynn)

By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky

We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.

By Fire and by Water, between the Earth and Sky

We stand like the World-Tree rooted, deep, crowned high.

Come we now to the Well, the eye and the mouth of Earth,

Come we now to the Well, and silver we bring.

Come we now to the Well, the waters of rebirth

Come we now to the Well, together we sing.

CHORUS

We will kindle a Fire, Bless all, and with harm to none,

We will kindle a Fire, and offering pour,

We will kindle a Fire, a light 'neath the Moon and Sun,

We will kindle a Fire, our spirits will soar.

CHORUS

Gather we at the Tree, the root & the crown of all

Gather we at the Tree, below & above,

Gather we at the Tree, together we make our call,

Gather we at the Tree, In wisdom and love.

CHORUS

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Chris G. will offer silver to the well, incense to the fire and cense and asperge the bile during the song.

COMPLETING THE COSMOLOGY

To Land, Sea & Sky (Carrion)

The waters support and surround us.

The land extends about us.

The sky stretches above us.

And at the center burns a living flame.

Let us pray with a good fire.

May all the Kindred bless us.

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings and honor and worship to the holy ones.

Land, Sea & Sky Text by Ceisiwr Serith

OPENING THE GATES

(Raven)

Dagda Mor, your might and magic wards the threshold.

Great Good God, in your protection we shall stand at the center of all worlds.

Mighty Druid of the Tuatha, as the world of man and Sidhe converge within this place may you open the mounds before us.

(Raven) Irish whiskey is offered to the Dagda.

Dagda Mor, accept our offering!

All: Dagda Mor, be welcome among us!

(Carrion) Let us raise our voices in song to the Gatekeeper!

All in song

*Sing through my voice,
Play through my hands,
Let the way be open!*

Repeat chant three times

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(Raven)

Dagda Mor, merge now your magick with mine!
See the flame leaping forth from the fire.
See the mist arising from the well,
Flame and mist converging upon the tree.
Forming a meeting place between the realms

Striking a sigil or triskel over the fire

Let the fire burning towards the heavens open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Shining Ones.

Striking a sigil or triskel over the well

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Mighty Dead.

Striking a sigil or triskel upon the tree

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, be open to us.
Let the Gates Be Open!

All: Let the Gates Be Open!

GENERAL OFFERINGS TO AND INVOCATION OF THE SPIRITS

(Carrion)

Now that the world of the living and that of the spirit are one, we call out from the crossroads to the Mighty Kindred that they may join us in celebration this night!

(Isaura) Let us raise our voices in song to call the Mighty Dead near to us.

All In Song:

*Ancestors calling to me
Powers Ancient & Strong
Elders, Sages, Wise Ones Be
We've Known you All Along.*

Repeat 3 X's

Words by Phoenix

(Isaura) Mighty Ones, join us as we honor the Spirits of Nature and celebrate the fertility of the world around us.
Ancestors, accept our offering!

Beer, bread and incense are offered. (Chris G)

All: Ancestors, be welcome among us!

(Grollwynn) Let us raise our voices in song to call the Gods near to us.

All In Song:

*Hail all the Gods,
Hail all the Goddesses,
Hail all the Holy Ones,
We dwell together.*

*Lords of the sky,
Ladies of the sacred earth,
Spirits and the ancestors,
We dwell together.*

Repeat chant 3x

© *Words by Paul Maurice. Music by Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail Williams*

(Grollwynn) Deities, join us as we honor the Spirits of Nature and celebrate the fertility of the world around us.
Shining Ones, accept our offering!

Irish Whiskey and clarified butter is offered (Chris G)

All: Shining Ones be welcome among us!

HONORING THE DEITY OF THE RITE

Nature Spirits (Grollwynn)

We call to the Spirits of the natural world.
To those beings that share this realm with us.
We seek the guardians of the land.
The peaceful, Protectors!

Our voices echo through forest, glen and glade.
To our allies and companions of the Middle realm.
We seek the guidance of the Noble Court
The messengers of the Otherworld.

We give honor to the creatures of land, sea and sky.
To those seen and unseen.
We seek the beings of ancient magic,
The Daoine Sidhe.

Noble Ones, accept our offering.

Seeds and fruit are offered.

All: Noble Ones, be welcome among us!

Aengus Og Mac Oc (Raven)

We call to the palace on the banks of the Boyne
To the inspirer of youthful love
We seek the young son of the Dagda
The beautiful, Aengus!

Our voices echo throughout the hollow hills
To the Great God of Love and Beauty

We seek the harpist of the Sidhe
The witty, Aengus!

We give honor to the King of the Faery Folk
To the enchanter of mortal maidens
We seek the dreamer of Caer (kyair)
The handsome, Aengus!

We bid welcome to the Bringer of Youth and Beauty
To the patron of musicians and poets
We seek the Chosen One of the Tuatha
The fair, Aengus!

(Chris G) *An offering of honey and fruit is made.*

Aengus Og Mac Oc, Great God of Love and Life; accept our offering!

All: Aengus; be welcome among us!

Aine (AN-yuh) (Carrion)

We call deep into the sacred waters
To the healer and restorer of life
We seek the emerald eyed maiden
The beautiful, Aine!

Our voices echo high upon the tallest mountains
To the Great Goddess of Ancient Ireland
We seek the Sweetheart of the Sidhe
The splendid, Aine!

We give honor to the Queen of the Faery Folk
To the enchantress of mortal men
We seek the patroness of cattle and crops
The fair, Aine!

We bid welcome to the bringer of love and desire
To the mistress of unbridled passion
We seek the wielder of fire's free spirit
The bright lady, Aine!

(Chris G) *An offering of flowers and fruit is made.*

Aine, Great Goddess of Love and Life; accept our offering!

All: Aine, be welcome among us!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Carrion) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to the Noble Spirits and King and Queen of the Sidhe.

SEASONAL ENACTMENT/ GROUP PRAISE OFFERING

(Raven) In ancient times the need fires dotted the hill tops on May Eve. The Beltaine fires of old were kindled of nine sacred woods. In honor of these ancient fires we now offer nine sacred woods as sacrifice as we light our need fire.

(Chris G.) *An offering of nine sacred woods is made.*

(Grollwynn) The Ancients, our Ancestors, would purify themselves, in between and over these fires to prepare for the season of fertility. We no longer purify ourselves within the fire, but we invite you now to dance between the fires in celebration of the coming season.

In Song (Carrion Mann)

Come the Lord of the Greenwood, Greenwood

Come the Lord of the Greenwood, Greenwood

Come the Lord of the Greenwood, Greenwood

And court the Lady Fair

In the heat of their passion, passion

In the heat of their passion, passion

In the heat of their passion, passion

The corn will rise again

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A drum beat begins and all have an opportunity to be purified between the fires 3 times.

(Carrion) Aine, Mistress of Unbridled Passion and Aengus, the Chosen One of the Tuatha on this night we will forge our alliances with the Noble Ones before you.

(Isaura) those who are the guardians of the growing green

(Grollwynn) those who are the granters of luck or bane

(Raven) those who are the keepers of secret knowledge

(Carrion) those who are the wrathful protectors

(Isaura) those who are the tribe of peace

(Grollwynn) those who are the teachers and the guides

(Raven) In the Old days alliances with the Faery Folk were made by tying of bright strips of cloth in the branches of the sacred trees. This May Eve as the veil stands thin we prepare to forge our own alliances with the Sidhe.

Come Good Folk, to our Faery Tree and tie a cloutie among the branches, so that it may stand for your alliance with the Noble Ones during this season of fertility.

All are given an opportunity to tie clouties to the faery tree.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Carrion)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor the Spirits of Nature, as they walk among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive their guidance, inspiration and insight.

Tonight we call out from the crossroads to our honored guests!

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared. (Chris G)

(Raven)

It is in love, honor and respect that we have offered hospitality to our guests this night.

We have sung their praise; made our sacrifice.

It is our hope that our words and sacrifice have conveyed our love.

We call once more through the Gates and deep within the Hollow Hills that they shall know of our devotion.

Noble Ones, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made and the clutie tree is given to the Noble Ones.

Noble Ones, accept our sacrifice!

All: Noble Ones, accept our sacrifice!

THE OMEN

(Raven)

The Omen is taken by drawing three Ogham. The seer then interprets the omen asking if our sacrifice and offerings have been accepted. The Seer then leads the company to contemplate the blessings/warnings of the omen from the Beings of the Occasion. While the omen is being taken Carrion will lead all present in the following chant.

(Carrion)

Let us raise our voices in song as the Spirits of Nature reveal their will.

In song

Look into the well of memory

Look into the well of time

Look into the well of ages

I am yours, You are mine.

Listen to the ancient stories

Listen to the ancient songs

Listen to the ancient wisdom

I go on, You go on

Deep within your hearts are beating

Deep within are hearts we know

Our descendants will remember

Our love flows, Your love flows.

(Words & music by Emerald)

CALLING FOR THE BLESSING (Raven) (Carrion)

Two pitchers will be filled and sat in the midst of the hallows.

The following words will be spoken over the pitchers.

(Raven) As in the ways of old we have given our gifts freely and as in the ways of old a gift is given unto us in return.

(Carrion) We will drink deep of the Cup of Inspiration. May the blessings of health, wealth and wisdom be ours.

(Raven) Noble Ones your blessings upon us!

All: Noble Ones your blessings upon us!

(Carrion) We gather with you between Earth and Sky. We are proud to call ourselves your people.

(Raven) Once again, Noble Ones your blessings upon us!

All: Noble Ones your blessings upon us!

(Carrion) We have brought our offerings. We have made sacrifice.

(Raven) One last time, Noble Ones your blessings upon us!

All: Noble Ones your blessings upon us!

(Grollwynn) *The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and tree.*

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

(Raven) Noble Ones hear and bless us.

(Carrion) Spirits of the natural world, Mighty Sidhe and creatures of fur, fin and feather, hallow these waters of life.

(Grollwynn) *lifts the pitchers before the participants.*

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(Raven) Now Children of Earth and Sky, do you wish to receive the blessings of our honored guests? _____. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of the Noble Ones!

The Waters are passed (Isaura & Chris G) and all participants share the waters. As the waters are passed the following song is sung by all participants.

(Grollwynn) As we receive the blessing of the Noble Ones let us raise our voices in song.

All in Song

Pour the waters, raise the cup; Drink your share of wisdom deep; strength and love now fill us up. As the elder ways we keep.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Carrion) Beautiful Aine, Sweetheart of the Sidhe. May you continue to heal and restore our lives and our world. Great Queen of the Faery Folk, we thank you for your blessings this eve. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Aine, we thank you!

(Raven) Aengus Og Mac Oc, Witty King of the Sidhe. May you continue to bring beauty and youthful love to our lives and the world around us. Great God of Love and Beauty, we thank you for your blessings this eve. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Aengus, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) Noble Spirits, beings of land, sea and sky. Companions who aid and guide us in our journey. Noble Ones we thank you for sharing your knowledge and protection. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the

hearth's fire.

All: Noble Spirits, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) Shining Ones, Eldest and Brightest. May you continue to guide and bless us as we walk this path. Shining Ones, known and unknown, we thank you for your blessings and guidance this eve. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Shining Ones, we thank you!

(Isaura) Mighty Ones, of blood and spirit. Those who inspire and guide us in our lives. Beloved Dead we thank you for the wisdom you have shared with us. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Mighty Dead, we thank you!

(Carrion) Lady Brighid, Great Mother of song and music. We thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence. May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Bright Lady, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven)

Dagda Mor, Great Guardian of the Threshold, I now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more. Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become but wood. Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more become but water.

Let the fire burning towards the heavens once more become but flames.

Dagda Mor, let the Gates be closed!

All: Let the Gates be closed!

(Raven) Dagda Mor, Mighty Druid of the Tuatha; we thank you for your protection and guidance as we stand at the center of all worlds this night. **(A final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

All: Dagda, we thank you!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Grollwynn) Mighty Father of the Clear Sky, we thank you for the blessings you have given us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Sky Father, we thank you!

(Isaura) Great Goddess of Sovereignty, we thank you for all life. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Earth Mother, we thank you!

(Raven) We now return all that has gone unused to the Earth and the Sky, may they continue to support, surround and sustain us. All offerings that remain are burnt in the fire or scattered upon the Earth.

STATEMENT OF ENDING

Unmerging, Regrounding & Recentering: Meditation

(Grollwynn) Children of Earth and Sky, join me once more as we close our eyes; breathing deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth **(pause for a 2 count)**.

As the mighty oak is part of the forest, we are all part of the great circle of life. Remember the blessings we have received together this night **(pause)**.

As we stand between Earth and Sky

Once more feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters.

Once more feel the coolness of the waters that have pooled within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. **(pause 4 count)**

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens.

Know that above us burns the primal fires.

Once more feel the warmth of the fires that have illuminated your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. **(pause 4 count)**

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky surging through you, as they have given strength and energy to your being. **(pause 4 count)**

Keep of this power what you need, sending what remains forth from our beings into the Great Lake **(pause)**. See this energy heal and protect her as we conclude our worship.

May all that is be what was, that it may be again!

(Jim)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 3 X 3 times.*

All: We will keep the faith until the sky falls upon us and crushes us; until the earth opens and swallows us; until the seas arise and overwhelm us.

Recessional Song

(Isaura) Once more as we raise our voices in song as we conclude our worship.

In song

CHORUS

The sky fuels the waters

And the waters sustain the skies

We walk together from this place

With the honored as our guides

*Strong in our purpose
We balance and survive
From many wells of fortitude
Our spirits are revived*

CHORUS

*Joyous in our sharing
We honor dead and alive
With voices of sacred wisdom
We travel the path of our lives*

CHORUS

*Fulfilled in our learning
Our souls will always thrive
In our varied hearts and minds
We keep the sacred for all time*

CHORUS

(lyrics by Moon Dragon; music by Raven of the Sorrows)

Special Thanks To:

All who attended, participated and shared in our Beltaine celebration.

***Emerald of Sassafras Grove for the chant
The Waters Flow Around Us and the Well of Memory***

The Unknown Author of the chant Deep Peace.

***Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants
Gatekeeper Chant, The Lord of the Greenwood, Pour the
Waters and the Portal Song***

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

***Paul Maurice. Music by Paul Maurice, Sean Miller and Gail
Williams for the chant Hail All the Gods.***

Phoenix for the chant Ancestors.

*Whispering Lake Grove, ADF
Beltaine Ritual
2008*

*Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)*

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