

Whispering Lake Grove
ADF



Beltaine
April 26, 2009
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Chris G.)

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)*

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky as they surge through you, lending strength and energy to your being. *(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 us, lending strength and energy to one and all.

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 (Isaura)

Wise One of the Ages

Patron of our Grove

Weaver of the Druid's Mist

King without a throne

He, who walks beside us

And forever hears our call.

Guide, friend and companion.

Welcome to our hall.

(Member) *will prepare a special offering for the Grove Patron and give the offering at this time.*

Manannan Mac Lir, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION

(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 have offered nine sacred woods as sacrifice as we lighted our sacred fires this day. 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.

Participant will be led into the ritual area and through the bale fires for purification. Once in the Nemeton the snake dance will begin between the bale fires as we continue the chant.

In Song (Grollwynn)

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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Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.

OPENING PRAYERS

(Jim or Sy)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

Earth Mother & Sky Father (Eld Naðr)

Primal Mother of the Earth and Father of the Clear Sky

Forever, Mother and Father of all that was, of all that is and all that will be. Your children come before you in love and respect to honor you this night!

An offering of corn meal and clarified butter is made to the Earth Mothers and Sky Fathers.



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

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Bardic Inspiration (Grollwynn)

Goddess of Inspiration & Poetry
 Great Mother of Song & 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
(Eld Naðr) An offering of cream & honey is placed in the offering bowl for Brighid.

Lady Brighid, accept our offering!
All: Brighid, be welcome among us!

A Prayer for the Elder Wise (Carrion)

The blood within our veins has also flowed in yours.
 The thoughts that fill our mind have also weighed on yours.
 The love and pain we feel has lived within your heart.
 A well worn path we travel in your footsteps through the dark.

We are asking for your hand, for a torch to light the way.
 For your guidance in our work and your wisdom as we pray.
 That we may join the Elder Wise when our time too has passed,
 Aiding future generations that we shall not be the last.
An offering of incense is made to the Elder Wise.

Elder Wise, accept our offering!
All: Elder Wise, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Historical Precedent (Raven)

“BoAnn and the Dadga”



Purpose of the Ritual (Carrion)

Tonight we gather at the center of all worlds.
 To worship and honor BoAnn and the Dagda Mor.
 We shall sing their praise and make our sacrifice.
 As we seek their blessings in return.

We gather this night in celebration of the turning wheel.
 Enjoying the fertility of the world around us.
 Tonight we celebrate the sacred union of Earth and Sky,
 As we prepare for the work that lay before us.

We gather this night at the crossroads.
 In celebration of the Feast of Beltaine.
 Enjoying the company of friends and family.
 As we remembering the ways of old.
 While we welcome the season of fertility.

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

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

Weaving the Druids Mist

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

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

In song

*Building Bridges Between Our Divisions
 I reach out for you, as you reach out for me
 With all of our voices and all of our visions*



Brothers we could make such a sweet harmony

Sisters we could make such a sweet harmony

Author Unknown

Repeat chant 3 times

Establishing Sacred Time (Eld Naör)

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.

FIRE, WELL & TREE (chant) (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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Eld Nathr 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)

Manannan MacLir, it is your might and magic that wards the threshold.

Grey Rider of Aonbarr, we ask for your protection as we walk through the mist this night.



Mighty Lord of the Crossroads, as we travel between the worlds of man and Sidhe may you part the mist before us.

(Eld Naðr) *Irish whiskey is offered to Manannan.*

Manannan MacLir, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

Manannan, aid us in our work!

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

All in song

Gatekeeper open the portals,

Between the Gods and mortals,

Power freely flows, as our magic grows!

Repeat chant three times

© *Liafal*

(Raven)

Manannan, 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.

By the land before us!

By the seas about us!

By the sky above 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!

(Eld Naðr)

Allies of the Middle Realm!

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld

Elves, Sprites, and Faeries of the Hollow Hills

Protectors of this sacred ground.

Noble Ones, join us in celebration!

Seed is offered. (Eld Naðr)

Nature Spirits, accept our offerings!

All: Nature Spirits, be welcome among us!

(Grollwynn)

Wise Ones of the Realm Below!

Beloved Dead of blood and spirit; Ancestors of flesh and bone

Great Cu Chulainn, Maeve and Finn

Heros of myth and legend

Mighty Ones, join us in celebration!

Alcohol is offered. (Eld Naðr)

Ancestors, accept our offerings!

All: Ancestors, be welcome among us!

(Isaura)

Eldest and Brightest of the Realm Above!

Bringers of life, death and rebirth.

Deities of Might, of Magic and those of the Mist.

Blessed Children of Danu!

Shining Ones be welcome among us!

Alcohol is offered. (Eld Naðr)



(Carrion)

*Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe
Powers of Earth and Sky and Sea
By Fire and Well, by Sacred Tree
Offerings We Make to Ye
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HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

Ladies take up your ribbons...

BoAnn Invocation (Carrion)

I am the blossoms in the springtime
And the ground beneath your feet.

I am the valleys and the woodlands
And the waters of the streams.

I am the caverns deep within
And the vessel of rebirth.

I am the chaos of potential
And the sovereignty of the land.

Cow Eyed Mother of the Irish Celts,
Your children call you near,
An offering of flowers and milk is made.
BoAnn, accept our offering!
BoAnn, be welcome among us!

Sky Father Invocation (Raven)

Gentlemen take up your ribbons...

I am the spark of all creation
And the clear sky overhead.



I am the rain that falls to Earth
And the first among our kin.

I am the ruler of the sunshine
And the law upon the land.

I am the order of the cosmos.
And the fire deep within.

Mighty Stallion of the Celts,
Your children call you near,
An offering of silver and hard alcohol is made.
Dagda Mor, accept our offering!
Dagda Mor, be welcome among us!

GROUP PRAISE OFFERINGS

Seasonal Enactment

(Carrion)

Let us dance together once more upon the Earth and beneath the
Sky that the power raised here this day may strengthen and
sustain our honored guests.

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

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Raven) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of
praise to BoAnn and the Dagda. *(Once all individual praise
offerings have been made to the Deities of the Occasion the
Group will offer praise)*



PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Raven)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;
We honor the Dagda and BoAnn, 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 guests of honor!
As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared. (Eld Naðr)

(Eld Naðr)

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
Otherworld that all shall know of our devotion.

Dagda and BoAnn, we honor you!

The final sacrifice is made.

Dadga Mor and BoAnn, accept our sacrifice!

All: Dadga Mor and BoAnn, accept our sacrifice!

THE OMEN

(Raven)(Eld Naðr)

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 Deities of the Occasion. While the omen is being taken Carrion will lead all present in the following chant.

(Grollwynn)

Let us raise our voices in song as our Gods reveal their will.



In song

*Come druid all, ovates and seers
And let your minds be still
Earth, sea and sky will lend no fears
As the gods reveal their will.*

*Let every heart sing praise to them
And all our works be skilled
Claiming their blessings to the very end.
As the gods reveal their will.
(Words by Sean Miller)*

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) Dagda and BoAnn your blessings upon us!

All: Dagda and BoAnn your blessings upon us!

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

(Raven) Once again, Dagda and BoAnn your blessings upon
us!

All: Dagda and BoAnn, your blessings upon us!

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

(Raven) One last time, Dagda and BoAnn, your blessings upon
us!

All: Dagda and BoAnn, your blessings upon us!

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



HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(Eld Naðr) Behold the Waters of Life!

(Raven) Dagda and BoAnn hear and bless us.

(Carrion) Great Goddess of Sovereignty, hallow these waters of life.

(Raven) Great Good God of the Clear Sky, hallow these waters of life.

(Eld Naðr) *lifts the ptichers before the participants.*

(Eld Naðr) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(Eld Naðr) Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings of our honored guests? _____. Then we shall drink deep the blessings of BoAnn and the Dagda Mor!

The Waters are passed (Chris G. and Marisha) 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 Dagda and BoAnn let us raise our voices in song.

In song

Back to the River, back to the Sea

Back to the Ocean, home to thee

Back through my blood, back through my veins.

Back to my heartbeat, all the same.

(By Abbi Spinner)

Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Isaura) Mighty Kindred of land, sea and sky, Eldest, Wisest and Mightiest of the realms. May you continue to protect, guide and



bless us as we walk this path. Kindred we thank you for the knowledge and blessings you have shared with us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Kindred, we thank you!

(Carrion) Elder Wise, Ancient Wise Ones before us, we thank you for the wisdom, inspiration and guidance you offer us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Elder Wise, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) Lady Brigid, 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: Brigid, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven) Manannan MacLir, Weaver of Gray Mists; we thank you for your protection and guidance as we have walked between the 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: Manannan, we thank you!

(Raven)

Manannan Mac Lir, Great Guardian of the Threshold, we now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more.

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

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more become but water.

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become but wood.

By the land before us!

By the seas about us!



By the sky above us!
 Let the Gates be closed!
All: Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Eld Naðr) Great Earth Mother and Sky Father, we thank you for the continuing strength and support 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: Earth Mother and Sky Father, we thank you!

(Eld Naðr) 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

(Chris G.) Good folk, 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 or Sy)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 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 arises and overwhelm us.

Recessional Song

(Carrion) Once more may we now raise our voices in song as we leave our Nemeton.

In Song

*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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Repeat until all participants have entered the worship area.



Special Thanks To:

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

Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants

Come the Lord of the Greenwood, Portal Song and Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe.

Liafal for the The Gatekeeper Chant

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

Abbi Spinner for the chant Back to the River

The unknown author of Building Bridges.



***Whispering Lake Grove, ADF
Beltaine Ritual
2009***

***Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)***

Rev. Raven & Rev. Carrion Mann

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