

Whispering Lake Grove ADF



Lughnasadh

August 3, 2008
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Eld Naðr)

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)

“The Story of Lugh’s Fosterage”

An offering of Irish Whiskey is made.

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION (All in song)

In song (Grollwynn)

Come we now as a people

To gather together at the sacred well

Come we now as a people

To gather in the warmth and the light of the flame

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Repeat until all participants have entered the ritual space and drawn a lot. Two lots will be darkened to chose horse racing competitors.

OPENING PRAYERS

(Jim)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

(Isaura)

Great Goddess of Sovereignty and High King of Ireland,
Through your sacred union the land and people prosper.

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

Bountiful Earth and High King, we honor you!

The two competitors come forward and are each given a hobby horse. The race is run and the winner makes the offering. An offering of milk and honey is made.

Bountiful Earth and High King, accept our offering!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Bardic Inspiration (Carrion)

Great Master of Many Arts

You quiet our minds with the music of sleep.

Inspire our hearts with the music of sorrow.

And enliven our spirit with the music of joy.

Lugh, let the magic of words be ours.

Three cups are placed in the hollows and two guest chosen from among the participants. Each is asked to choose a cup. The participant choosing the cup of wine is the champion and makes the offering. An offering of fruit wine is made.

Lugh, accept our offering!

All: Lugh, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Purpose of the Ritual & Historical Precedent

“The Gates of Tara” (Raven)

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

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

Dark dwellers, take heed this night!
Know the Mighty Tuatha will ward this place!
Their treasures will strike order from choas!
Driving all that is twisted and bent into the darkness.

Balor of the Evil Eye; King of the Fomorians,
who has dared to challenge the Might and Magic of the Tuatha.
You and your kin, primal bringers chaos and discord,
Hoards, whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our songs
and praise.

Dark dwellers, take heed this night!
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.
Take what has been laid beyond the fire's light
And trouble us not this night!

Purification of Participants & Space

*The aspersion bowl is filled by Grollwynn from the Well and the censor is kindled from the Fire by Isaura. 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 Mann)

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 **(Isaura)**

*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 **(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.

Fire, Well & Tree (Grollwynn)

All in song

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.

An offering of hazel nuts is made to the well.

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.

An offering of incense is made to the fire.

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.

The bile is censed and asperged.

CHORUS

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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

Invocation to the Gatekeeper (Raven)

Mighty Champion of the Tuatha, in your protection we shall stand at the center of all worlds.

Great Warrior of the Fiercest Combats, as the worlds converge upon this place may you open the way before us.

Two participants are given hoops and must attempt to keep the hoop moving around their waist. The last to loose the gate offers to Lugh.

(Eld Naðr) Irish whiskey is offered to Lugh.

Lugh Lamhfhadha, accept our offering!

All: Lugh, be welcome among us!

In song

Gatekeeper open the portals,

Between the Gods and mortals,

Power freely flows, as our magic grows!

Repeat chant three times

Chant by Liafal

(Raven, Carrion & Eld Naðr)

Lugh, shield us with your strength and merge now your magic with ours!

(Raven)

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.

(Carrion)

See the mist arising from the well,

(Eld Naðr)

Flame and mist converging upon the tree.

Forming a meeting place between the realms

(Raven) 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.

(Carrion) 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.

(Eld Naðr) Striking a sigil or triskel upon the tree

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, be open to us.

By the land before us!

(Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven)

By the sky above us!

(Raven)(Eld Naðr)(Carrion)

Let the Gates Be Open!

GENERAL OFFERINGS TO AND INVOCATION OF THE SPIRITS

(Isaura)

Now that the world of the living and that of the spirit are one, we call out from the crossroads to the Mighty Kindred. Noble Ones, Ancestors and Deities we call to you. Join us in celebration this night.

Let us raise our voices in song to call forth the Kindred.

(Carrion)

All in song

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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Repeat chant three times offer to the Noble Ones 1st round, Ancestors 2nd round and Deities 3rd round. Hard alcohol is offered.

Kindred, accept our offerings!

All: Kindred, be welcome among us!

HONORING THE DEITIES OF THE RITE

Lugh (Carrion)

Great Guardian of Roads and Travelers

Warrior, Poet and High King

Skill One of Many Arts, we call to you.

Patron of Commerce and Contracts

Physician, Historian and Smith

Master of Many Skills, we welcome you.

Young Bull of the first harvest,

Through your strength and courage we prosper.

Lugh Samildanach, we honor you.

An offering of fruits of the first harvest are made (berries, corn, wheat other produce that can be harvested during this season) Two participants are chosen for the potato race. The winner makes the offering to Lugh.

Lugh, accept our offering!

All: Lugh, be welcome among us!

PERSONAL/PRAISE OFFERINGS

(Grollwynn) At this time you may bring forth your offerings of praise to the Master of Many Arts.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Raven)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We have honored Lugh, as he walks among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive his guidance, inspiration and insight.

Tonight we call out from the crossroads to our guest 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 guest this night.

We have sung his 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.

Lugh Lamhfhadha, we honor you.

The four champions are called forth for a final battle. Each is given a sling shot and the Eye of Balor is raised. Each champion takes three shots. The closest to the center wins and makes the final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is made.

Lugh, accept our sacrifice!

All: Lugh, 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 Deity of the Occasion.

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) Lugh your blessings upon us!

All: Lugh your blessings upon us!

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

(Raven) Once again, Lugh your blessings upon us!

All: Lugh your blessings upon us!

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

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

All: Lugh 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!

(Carrion) Lugh hear and bless us.

(Raven) Oh, Many Skilled One, share your magic with us and

hallow these Waters of Life.

(Eld Naðr) *lifts the pitchers 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 Lugh this night? _____. Then we shall drink deep his blessings!

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

(Carrion) As we receive the blessing let us raise our voices in song.

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.

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Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Carrion) Lugh of the Long Arm, the Many Skilled One. May you continue to guide and protect us, as we strive to mirror your image. Great King of the Tuatha, we thank you for your many blessings this eve. **(offering a final token is offered upon the fire)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Lugh, we thank you!

(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!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven) Lugh, we now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more.

(Raven) *Striking the sigil over the fire*

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

(Carrion) *Striking the sigil over the well*

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

(Eld Naðr) *Striking the sigil upon the tree*

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

By the land before us!

(Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven)

By the sky above us!

(Raven Mann)(Eld Naðr)(Carrion Mann)

Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Isaura) Great Goddess of Sovereignty and High King we thank you for the bounty of this land and the prosperity of this tribe. **(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!

(Carrion) 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

(Eld Naðr) 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)

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

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

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 Lughnasadh celebration.

Stone Creed Grove, ADF for the chants

Come We Now As a People, The Portal Song, Gods and Dead and Mighty Sidhe, and Pour the Waters.

Liafal for the chant

The Gatekeeper

Unknown Author of the chant

Building Bridges

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

***Whispering Lake Grove, A.D.F.
Lughnasadh Ritual
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***Ritual text written by
(Unless otherwise credited)***

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